ACTION COMICS

長い道

こうの史代

双葉社

Nagai Michi
Kono Fumiyo
長い道
こうの史代

Contents

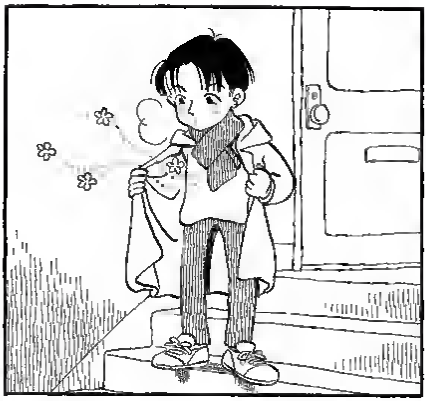
Road at Night	4	Sweet Life	90
Early Spring Ghost Story	7	Light Snow	94
Two Hundred Yen Man	10	Home is Where the Heart is	98
I'm Going Bald!!	13	Bird Week!	102
Unpopular	16	Fight for the Umbrella	106
The Sound of Rain	19	Vortex of Oblivion	110
Who?	22	The Lovely Manager	114
27 Years Old and Unemployed	26	Entry Without Permission	118
We Aren't Doing it!	29	Flower of Evil	122
Is That So?	32	Don't Move!	126
In My Dreams	35	Sonoko	130
Sweet Potato Girl	38	Spring with the In-Laws	134
The First Day	42	Were We Really Saved?	138
The Country of Yen	45	Country of Oranges	142
Older Sister	48	Loitering	149
Crossword Puzzles	51	Someone from the Past	164
The Secret from Above the Closet	54	The Four and a Half Mat Guest	168
Reflection	57	Michi in Spring	172
We Did It!	62	Tea Serving Hell	177
God of Poverty!	65	Sosuke and the Broom	182
Michi Oimatsu's Drifting Record	68	Not in the Dictionary	186
Swelling	71	The Dependents' Song	190
Contracting	74	Passionate Junior	194
Friends?	77	Thieving Father	198
Long Thread	80	Fall Fir	202
Above the Cover	84	Fall Skies	206
New Year's First Dream Reality	87	Eventually It Came	210

Afterward 214

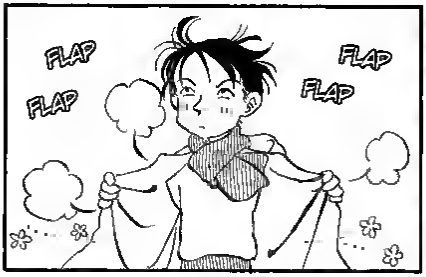
Fuji Dangerous

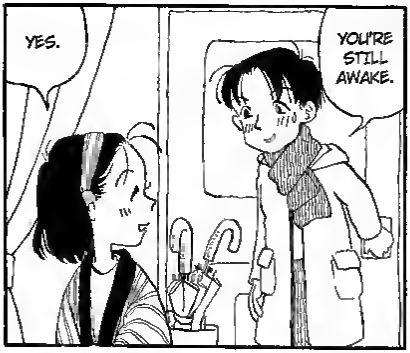
Nagai Michi

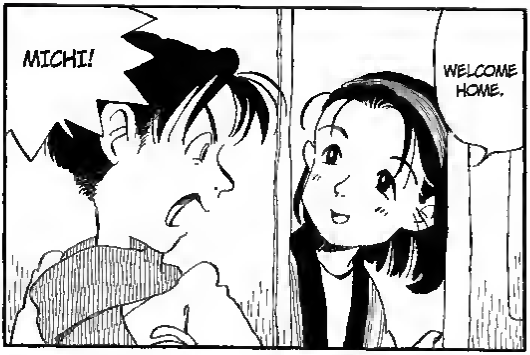
Kono Fumiyo



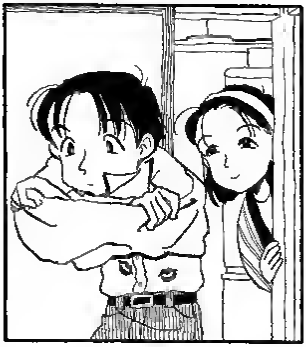
Road at Night

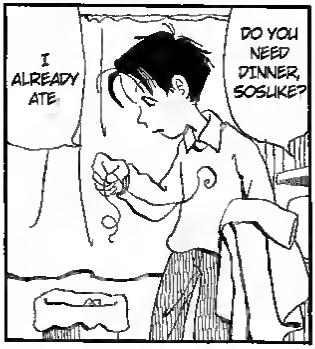

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP


YES.
YOU'RE STILL AWAKE.


MICHI!
WELCOME HOME.

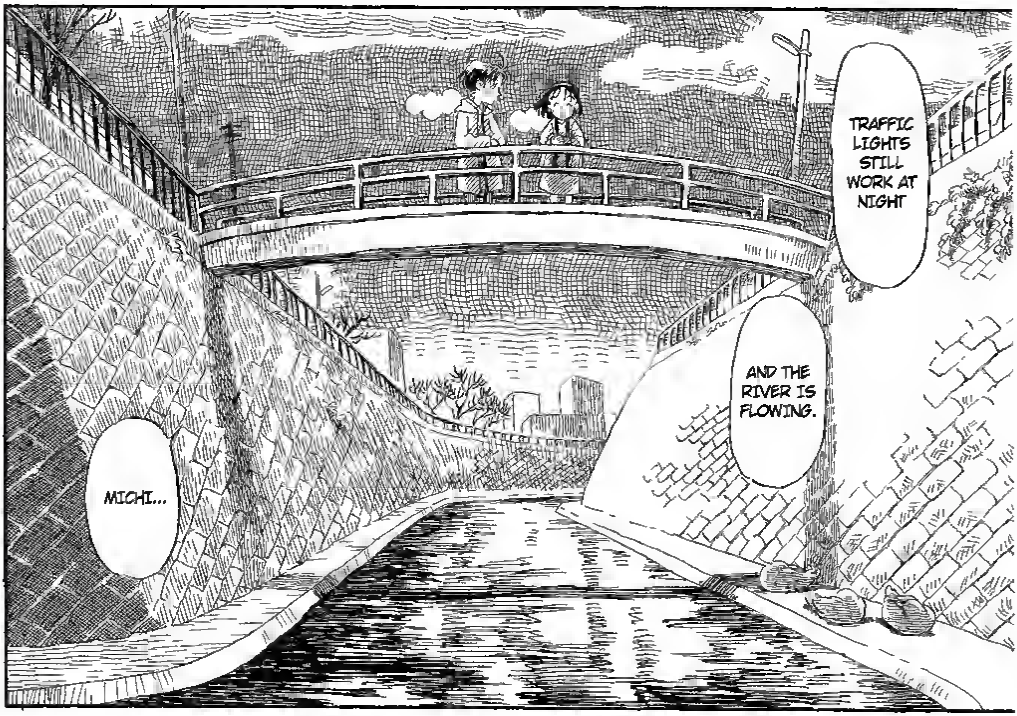
SO COULD I GET SOME TEA?
YES.

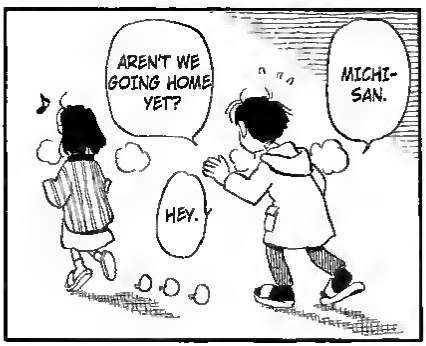


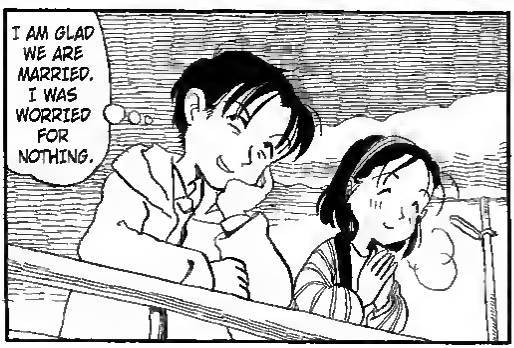

I ALREADY ATE.
DO YOU NEED DINNER, SOSUKE?

UH, OH.
AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT...
RING
OH.
I FOUND THIS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT NOW?
SOSLIKE.
MICHI, LET'S GO FOR A WALK!
BUT THE PHONE.
BUT THE TEA.
RING RING
DON'T ANSWER THAT!
I'M COMING, I'M .. UGH!
RING
THERE ARE SOME BUDS.
.....
YES.
SOSLIKE.
.....
.....

I'M HAPPY TO HAVE SOMEONE WHO WILL WALK WITH ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
I AM GLAD WE ARE MARRIED.


MICHI...
AND THE RIVER IS FLOWING.
TRAFFIC LIGHTS STILL WORK AT NIGHT


AREN'T WE GOING HOME YET?
MICHI-SAN.
HEY.

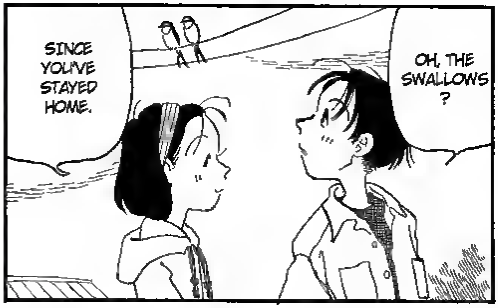

I AM GLAD WE ARE MARRIED. I WAS WORRIED FOR NOTHING.

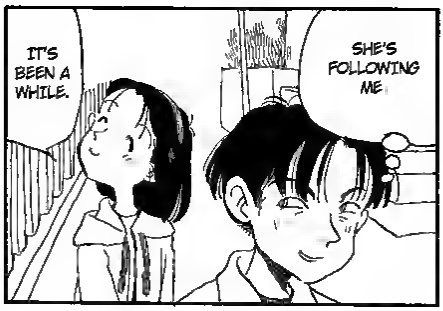
Early Spring Ghost Story
?
I SEE.
THE SCENT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL HAPPY.
カチッ
KACHINK

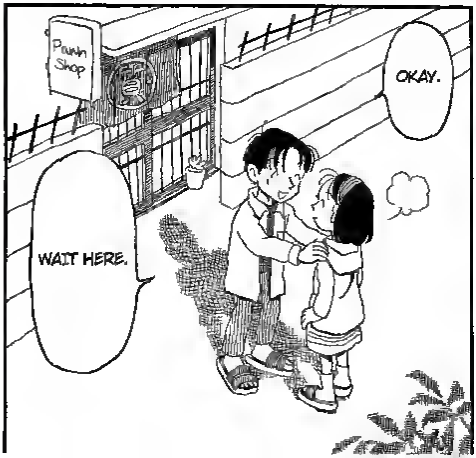
I KNEW IT.
IT APPEARS AT THE REMAINS OF THE SANATORIUM ON THIRD AVENUE...
.....
.....
AT THE LAST NEW YEAR'S PARTY
AN ORDINARY EMPLOYEE TOOK THE TOUPEE OF A SUPERIOR HE'D NEVER MET
POLISHED HIS BALD HEAD WITH A TOWEL
AND KISSED IT PASSIONAT ELY.
I KNOW SOME SCARY STORIES, TOO.
.....
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT GUY WAS THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER...
.....
I SEE.
I DON'T HAVE TO GO TO WORK STARTING TOMORROW.
WHICH IS WHY

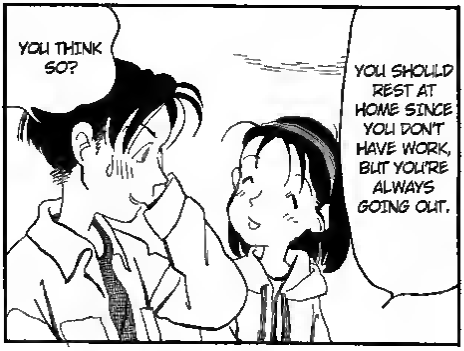
SOSUKE.
LOOK AT THIS.
MICHI...
Savings Passbook
Amatsu Sosuke
Bunny Car Bank
IS THIS A SCARY STORY, TOO?
IT'S YOUR TURN!
YOU STILL HAVE SAVINGS?
Electric
Gas
¥10,563
¥1412
¥2311

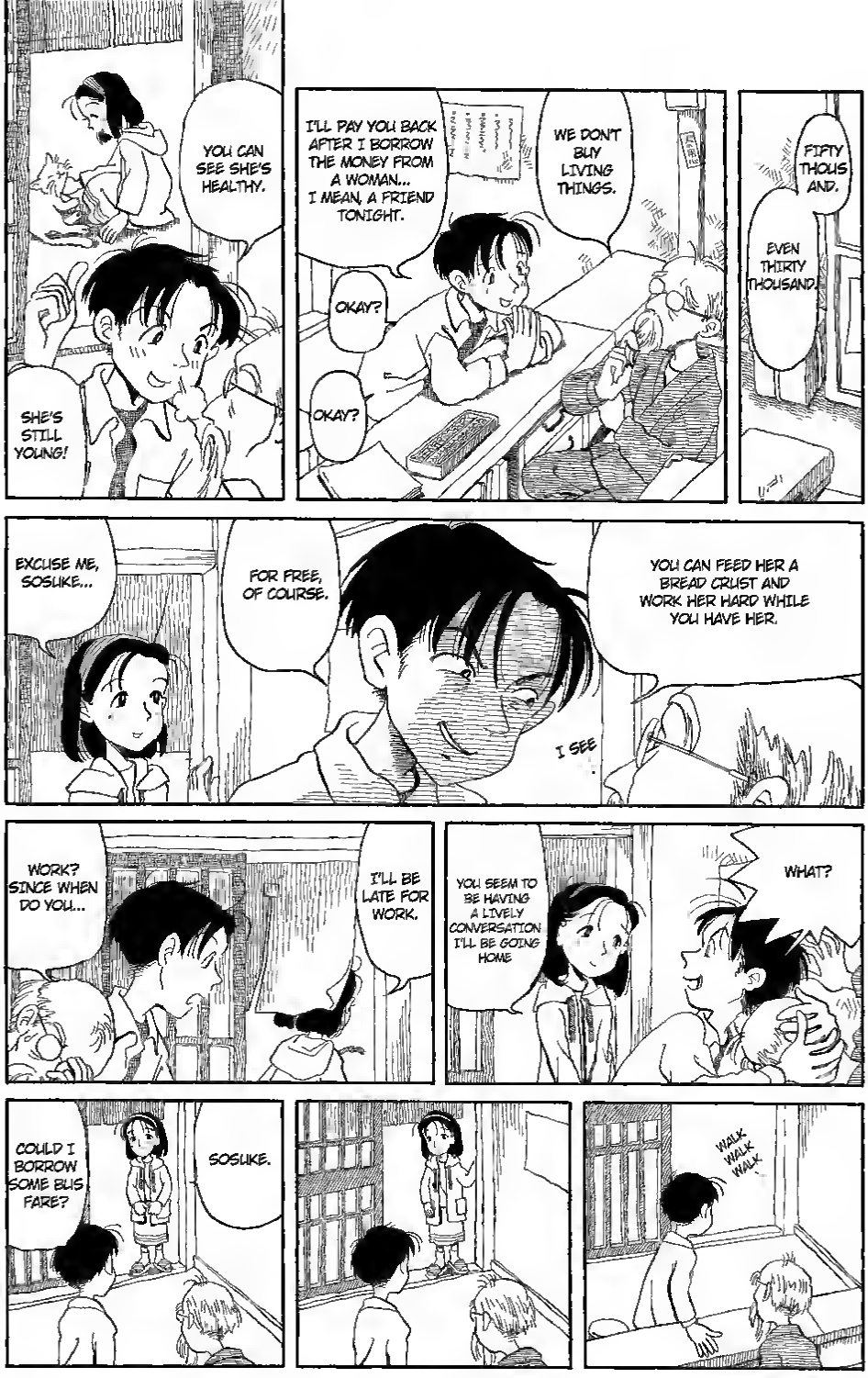
Two Hundred Yen Man


SINCE YOU'VE STAYED HOME.
OH, THE SWALLOWS?


IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
SHE'S FOLLOWING ME.

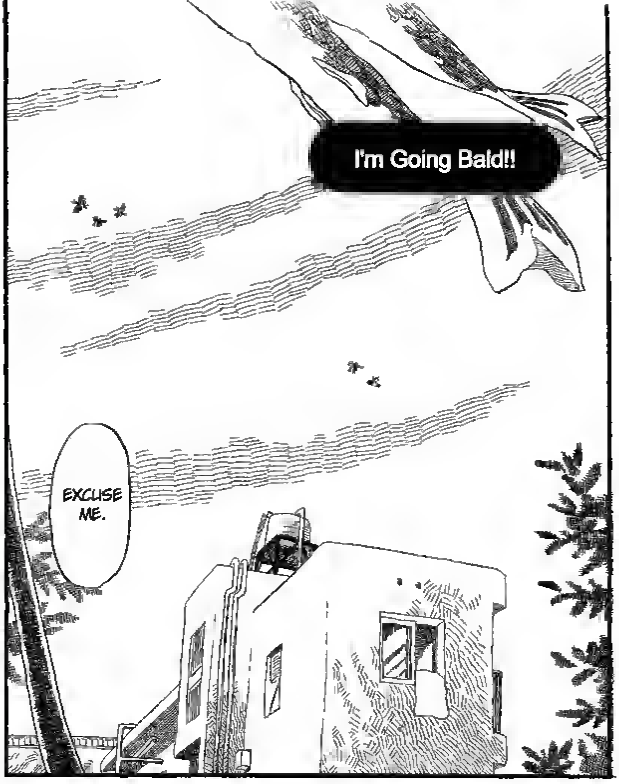

Pawn Shop
OKAY.
WAIT HERE.

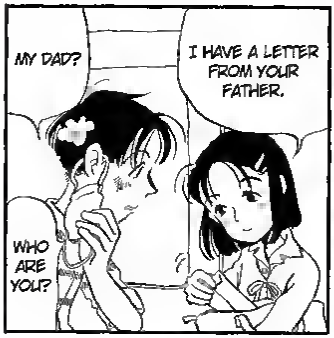

YOU THINK SO?
YOU SHOULD REST AT HOME SINCE YOU DON'T HAVE WORK, BUT YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING OUT.

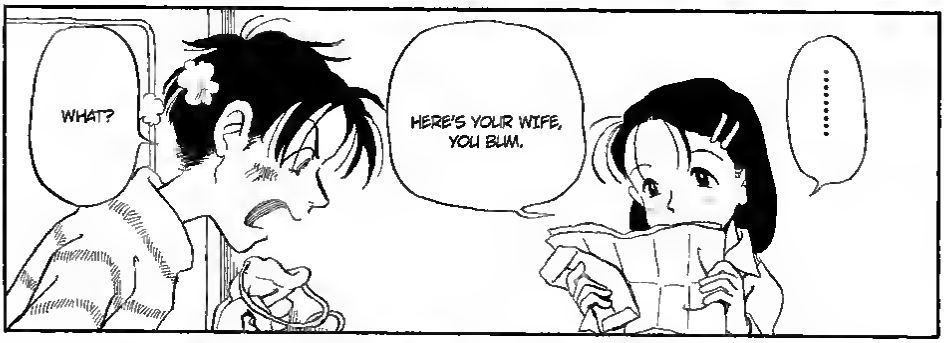

YOU CAN SEE SHE'S HEALTHY.
SHE'S STILL YOUNG!
I'LL PAY YOU BACK AFTER I BORROW THE MONEY FROM A WOMAN... I MEAN, A FRIEND TONIGHT.
OKAY?
OKAY?
WE DON'T BUY LIVING THINGS.
FIFTY THOUSAND.
EVEN THIRTY THOUSAND.
EXCUSE ME, SOSUKE...
FOR FREE, OF COURSE.
I SEE.
YOU CAN FEED HER A BREAD CRUST AND WORK HER HARD WHILE YOU HAVE HER.
WORK? SINCE WHEN DO YOU...
I'LL BE LATE FOR WORK.
YOU SEEM TO BE HAVING A LIVELY CONVERSATION I'LL BE GOING HOME
WHAT?
COULD I BORROW SOME BUS FARE?
SOSUKE.
WALK WALK WALK

YOU MEAN THIS OLD MAN?
BYE.
SAY HI TO YOUR FRIEND.
OH, THANK YOU.
.....
I WONDER IF SOSUKE IS STILL WITH HIS FRIEND
.....
WHAT?
FOR FREE.
I'LL WORK YOU HARD.
DOES MICHI KNOWN I'M WORKING HERE?
JVU
KEEP GOING
TWO HUNDRED YEN?
ME?
FOR THE TWO HUNDRED YEN?

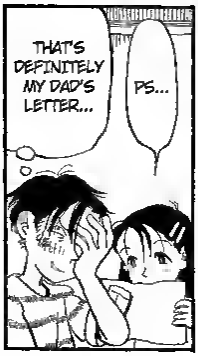
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ARE YOU OIMATSU SOSUKE?

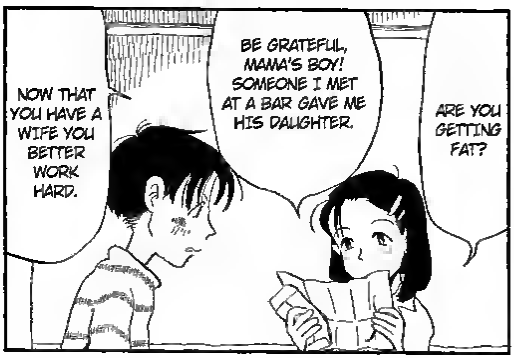

I'm Going Bald!!
EXCUSE ME.

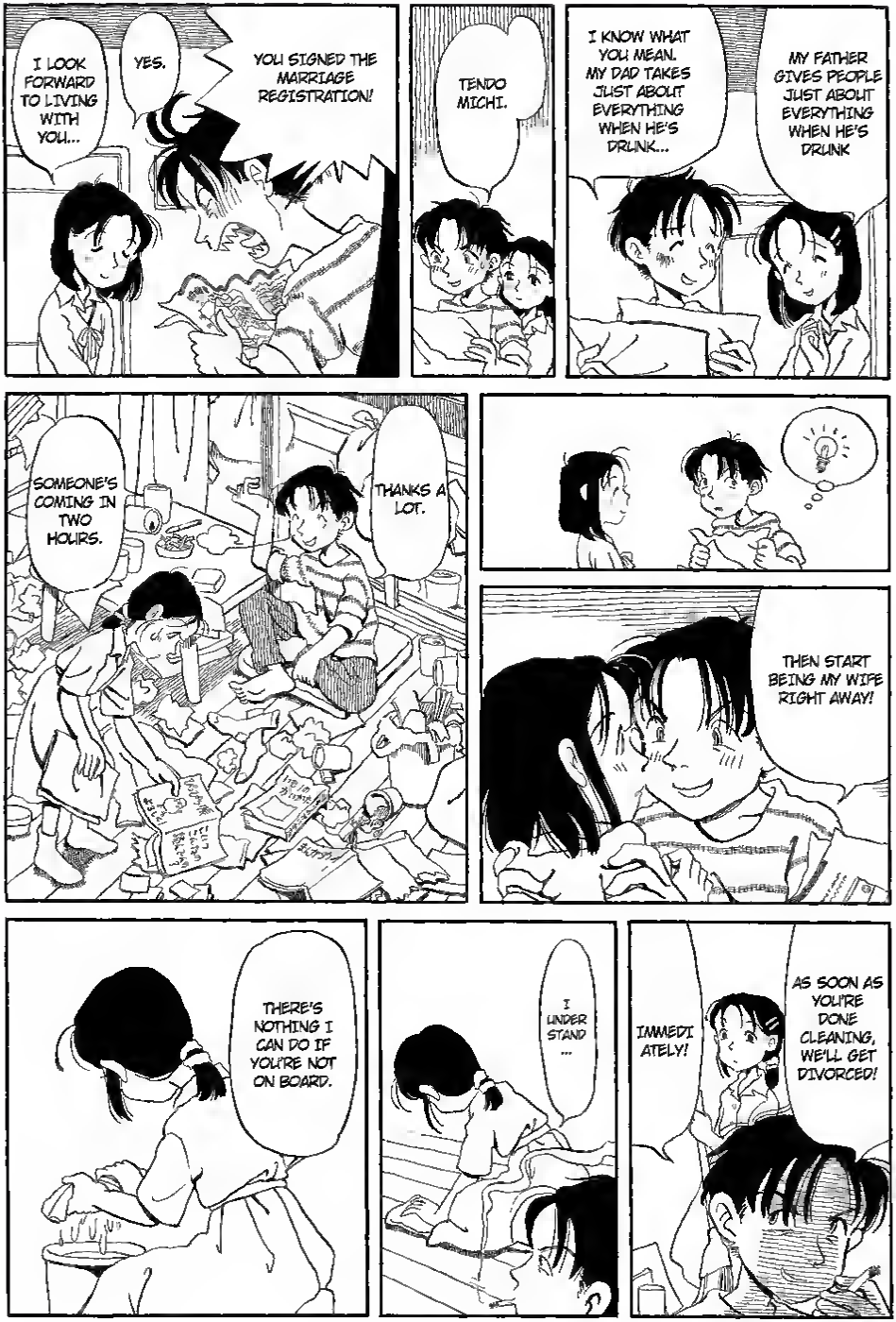

MY DAD?
I HAVE A LETTER FROM YOUR FATHER.
WHO ARE YOU?


WHAT?
HERE'S YOUR WIFE, YOU BUM.
.....

I KNOW!
YOU'LL GO BALD!


THAT'S DEFINITELY MY DAD'S LETTER...
PS...


NOW THAT YOU HAVE A WIFE YOU BETTER WORK HARD.
BE GRATEFUL, MAMA'S BOY! SOMEONE I MET AT A BAR GAVE ME HIS DAUGHTER.
ARE YOU GETTING FAT?


I LOOK FORWARD TO LIVING WITH YOU...
YES.
YOU SIGNED THE MARRIAGE REGISTRATION!
TENDO MICHI.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. MY DAD TAKES JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING WHEN HE'S DRUNK...
MY FATHER GIVES PEOPLE JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING WHEN HE'S DRUNK
SOMEONE'S COMING IN TWO HOURS.
THANKS A LOT.
THEN START BEING MY WIFE RIGHT AWAY!
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO IF YOU'RE NOT ON BOARD.
I UNDER STAND ...
IMMEDI ATELY!
AS SOON AS YOU'RE DONE CLEANING, WE'LL GET DIVORCED!

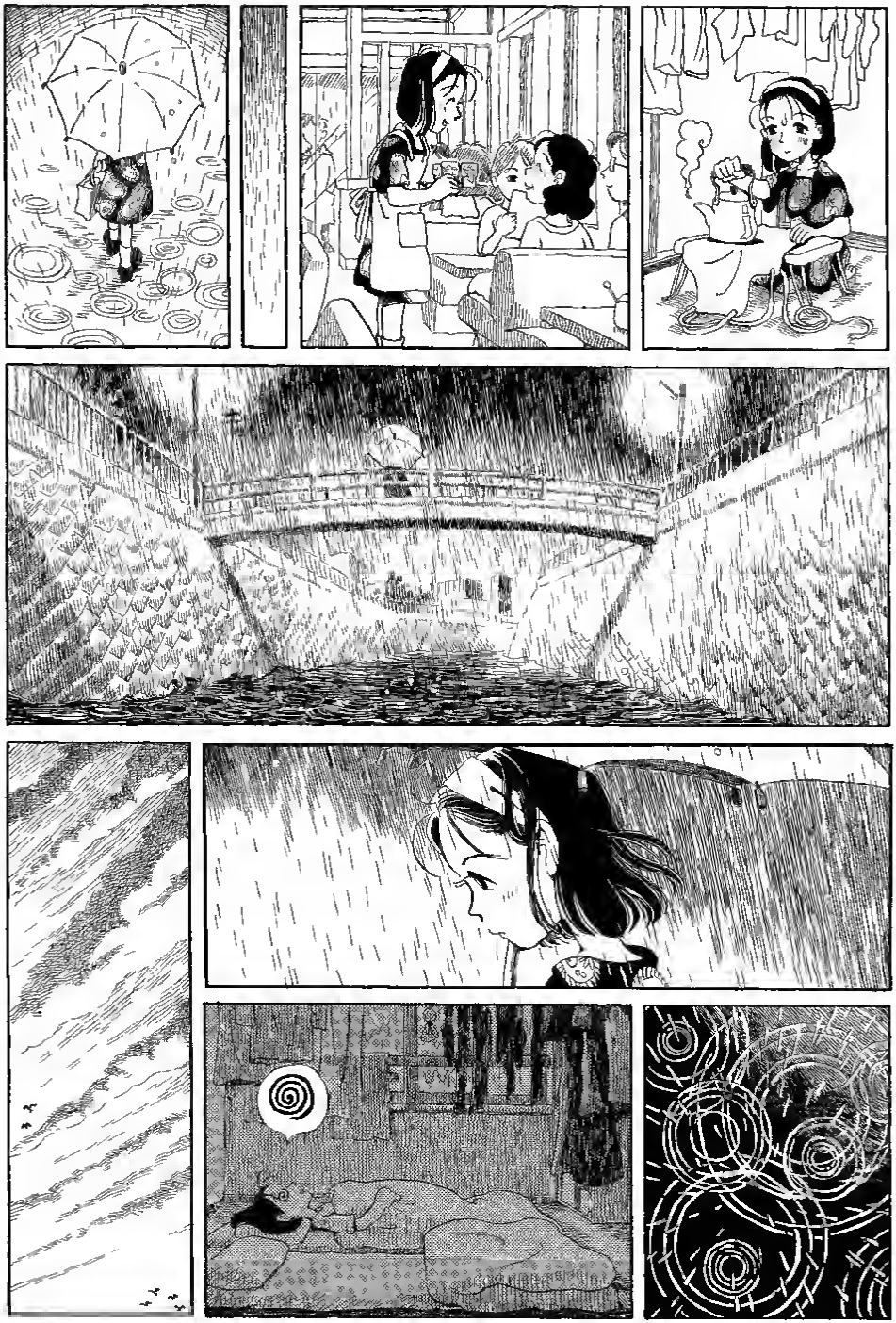
THANK YOU.
I HAD FUN!
MICHI, THAT'S A RAG.
I'VE BEEN ABSENT-MINDED SINCE I WAS LITTLE.
NO ONE HAS EVER ASKED THIS MUCH OF ME.
LOOK AFTER MY BOY!
THANK YOU, MICHI.
WHAM!
WELCOME...
I GOT HERE EARLY.
HELLO!
AHH!
CRUNCH
SWIP
OUCH
OUCH
IT'S BEEN A YEAR.
DID YOU SAY SOMETH ING?
OURS STARTS AT THE TOP.

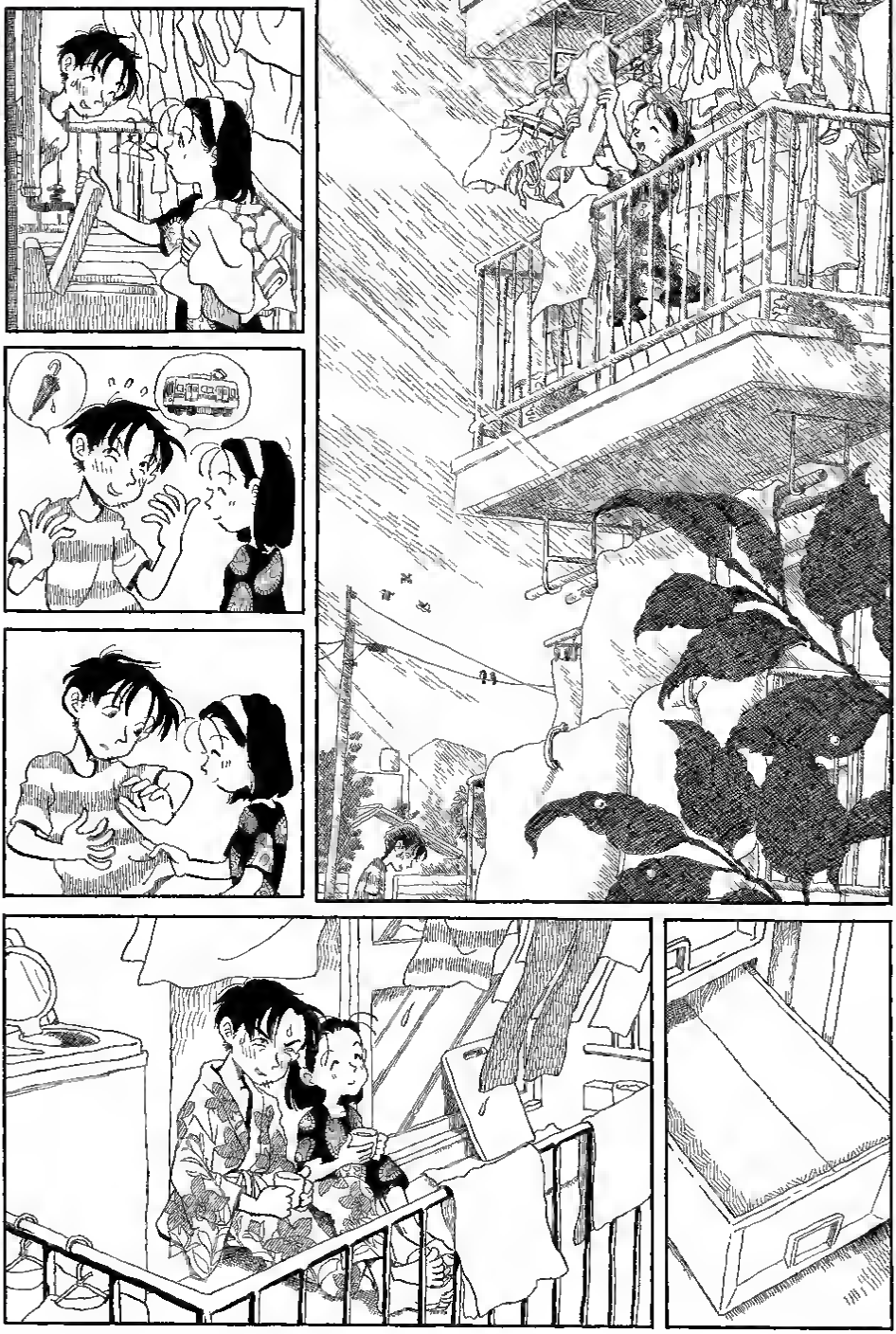
Unpopular
WELCOME BACK.
I'M HOME.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY IF I DON'T HAVE A JOB.
I'M BORED.
OH
.....
I'M UNPOPULAR
THAT'S BECAUSE
WHY ARE YOU BORED WITHOUT MONEY?
I'D BE UNPOPULAR.
I KNOW!
ONLY MEN WORK THERE.
THAT'S NOT QUITE GOOD ENOUGH.
HMM...
UH, WORK!
WHAT?
WHAT ABOUT THIS?

NOT ENOUGH VACATIONS.
THEN THIS ONE.
I'D PROBABLY HAVE TO STAY LATE.
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
.....
.....
HMM
YOU KEEP SAYING YOU'RE UNPOPULAR
SOSUKE.
OTHERWISE I'LL BE UNPOPULAR!
I'VE GOT TO HAVE SOME FREE TIME.
THIS IS NO GOOD MICHI!
WITH THIS!
LET'S HAVE SOME FUN
WHAT?
ARE YOU REALLY THAT UNPOPULAR?
LET'S SEE.
IT'S MY PAYDAY.
MICHI, WHERE'D THAT MONEY COME FROM?
OH! I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM...
FOR THE RENT AND UTILITIES

I WANT TO BE POPULAR, TOO.
WITH THAT MONEY?
WAIT, MICHI!
.....
SOMETIMES I WANT SOMEONE TO MAKE ME MELT WITH A LOOK.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M NOT EVEN POPULAR WITH PIGEONS.
I KNEW IT'D BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
COO
COO
COO
LOOK, SOSUKE!
COO
COO
COO

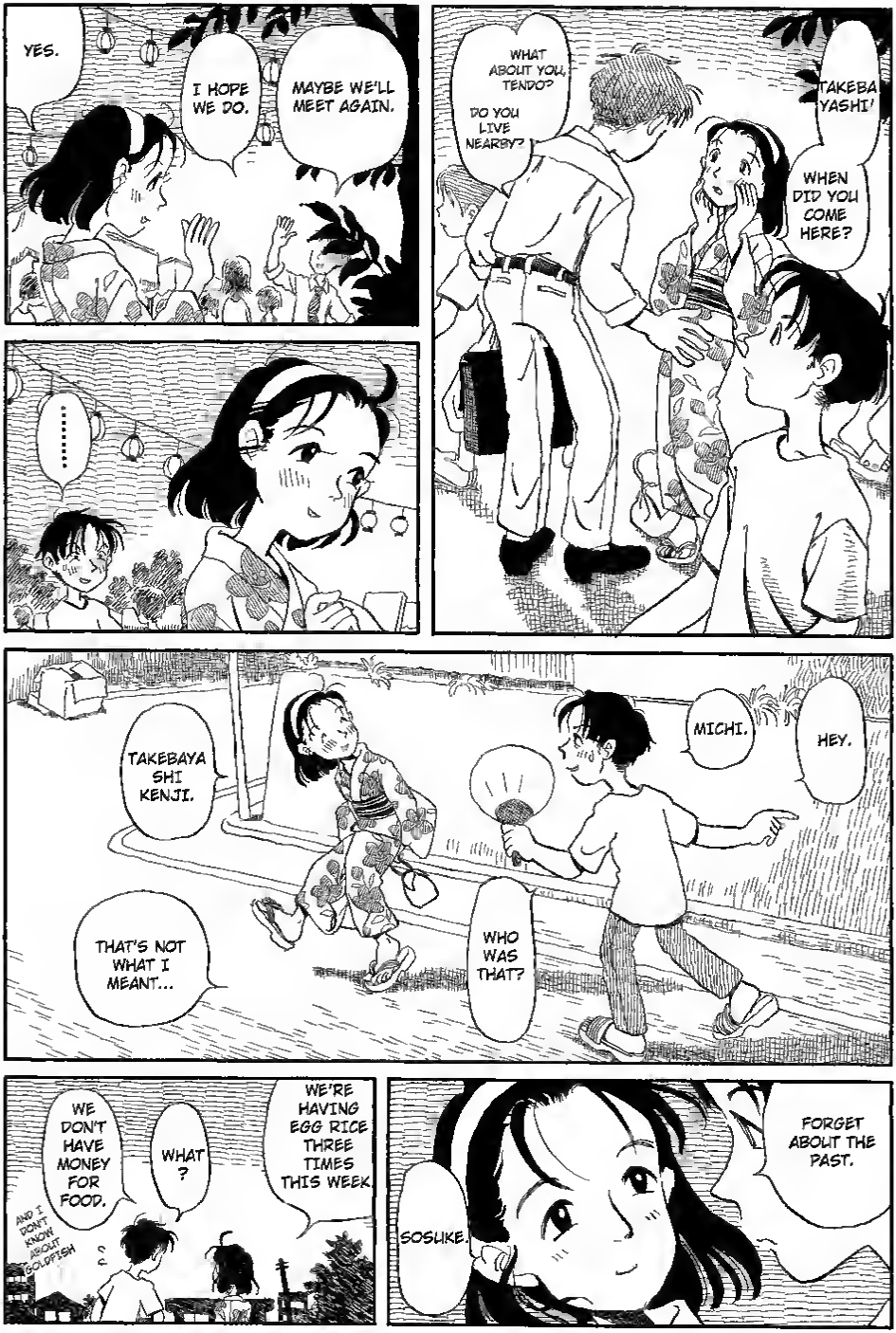
The Sound of Rain
Coin Laundromat
コインランドリー
乾燥天国
Drier Heaven



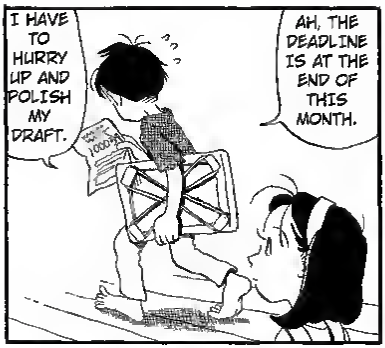


WHO'S FORLORN?
Who?
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE MICHI'S THE ONLY ONE I HAVE TO GO TO THE FESTIVAL WITH...
THESE HAVE GOT POTENTIAL.
WE'LL FRY THIS ONE.
THIS ONE WILL BE BROTH.
OIMA TSU.
WE DON'T NEED THOSE!
REALLY? I'D BETTER GET A TANK AND FOOD.
DO YOU WANT ME TO CATCH SOME FOR YOU!?
GOLDFISH, HUH?
DRAG
REALLY?
LONG TIME NO SEE...
HUH?

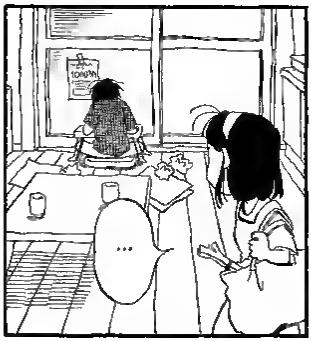
OH, THANKS
HUH?
YOU WANT YOUR MONEY BACK?
BOW
GOOD EVENING
FAMILY
OH, UH.
WHO IS SHE?
THIS IS THE MONEY I SPENT ON YOU. .
IS THIS ALL?
I SEE
RIGHT?
RIGHT?
ばぁ
EVERYONE'S GOT A PAST.
SHE'S IN YOUR PAST?
TENDO?
YOU'RE RIGHT.
OH, SORRY...

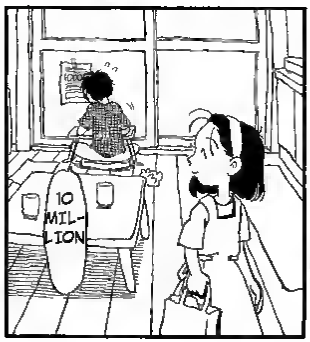

YES.
I HOPE WE DO.
MAYBE WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
.....
TAKEBAYASHI!
WHEN DID YOU COME HERE?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, TENDO?
DO YOU LIVE NEARBY?
HEY.
MICHI.
TAKEBAYASHI KENJI.
WHO WAS THAT?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
WE'RE HAVING EGG RICE THREE TIMES THIS WEEK.
WHAT?
WE DON'T HAVE MONEY FOR FOOD.
AND I DON'T KNOW ABOUT GOLDFISH
FORGET ABOUT THE PAST.
SOSUKE.

27 Years Old and Unemployed
HA-HA-HA!
HA-HA
...
UHM ...
I PICKED IT UP ON THE TRAIN.
THIS MAGA-ZINE?
HUH ?
ぼと
AH, HOW BORING !
ぴた
VERY BAD!
HOW WAS YOUR INTER-VIEW?


I HAVE TO HURRY UP AND POLISH MY DRAFT.
AH, THE DEADLINE IS AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

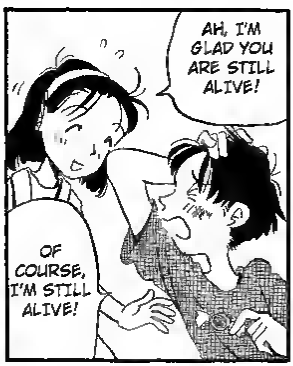
I'LL BECOME A MANGA ARTIST!
I'VE DECI-DED!

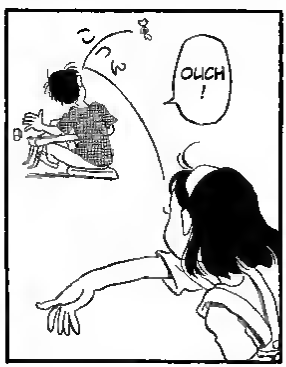

...

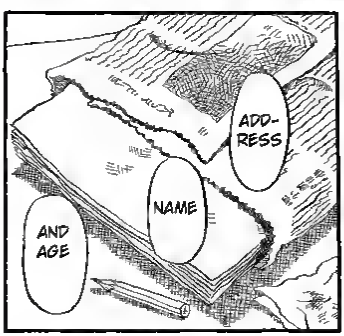

10 MIL-LION

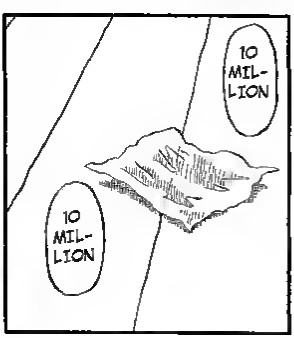
10 MIL-LION
...
10 MIL-LION

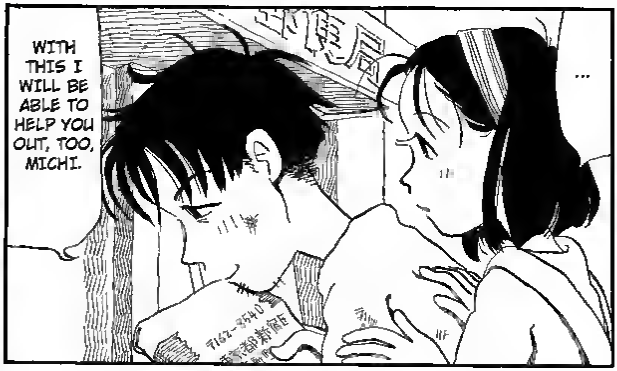
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A CANDY
DO YOU THINK THAT I WOULD DIE WITHOUT GETTING THIS 10 MILLION?


AH, I'M GLAD YOU ARE STILL ALIVE!
OF COURSE, I'M STILL ALIVE!


OUCH!

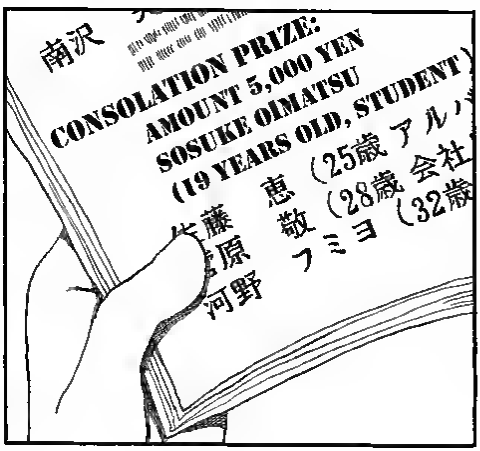

ADD-RESS
NAME
AND AGE


10 MIL-LION
10 MIL-LION



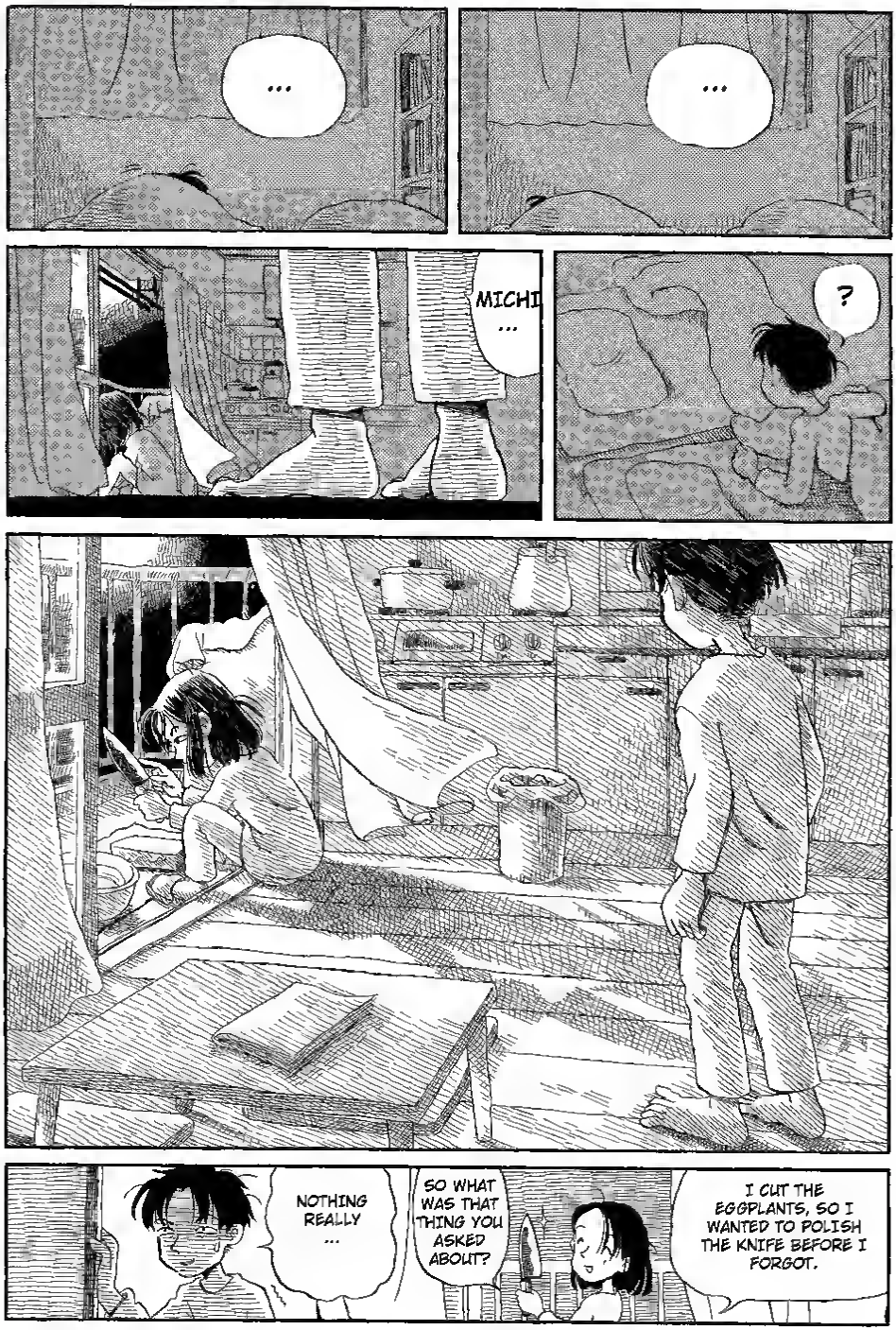
BIG PRIZE AMOUNT 10 MILLION YEN WINNER: NO ONE

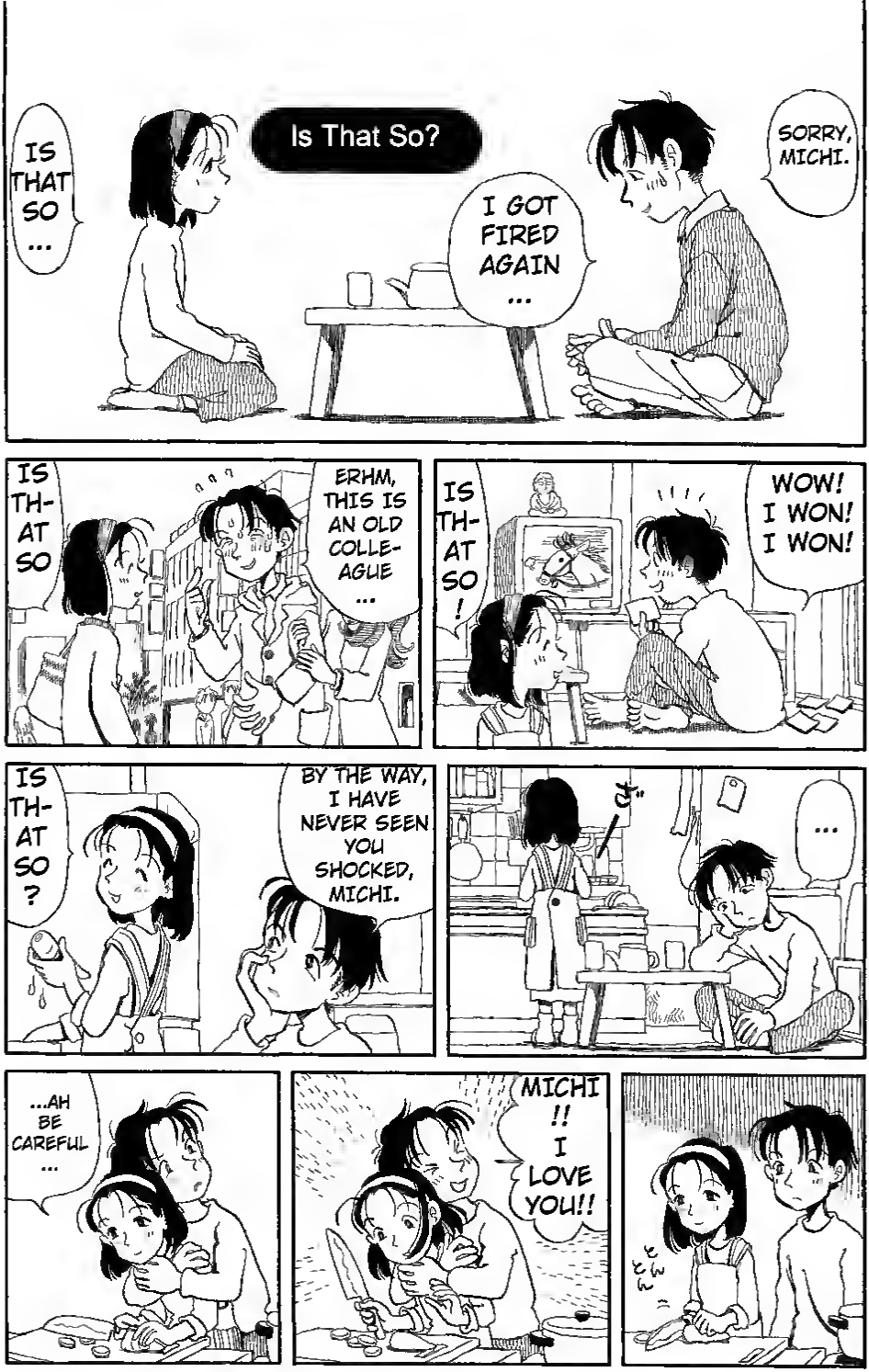
RATHER THAN THAT, WHY DID YOU WRITE YOU WERE A 19 YEAR OLD STUDENT?
THAT MAKES 15 YEN PER HOUR
4,500 YEN AFTER TAXES.
I WORKED FOR 3 WEEKS AND ALL I GOT WAS 5,000 YEN



We Aren't Doing It!
AH, FOOD!
YEP!
EGG-PLA-NTS
AND PERSI-MMONS!
FROM MY HOUSE HUH...
SUGAR
HALF-USED NOODLES
AND LASTLY, A LETTER
WHERE IS THE PHONE ...
TO SOSUKE AND MICHI, FROM FATHER
DEAR SOSUKE AND MICHI, DO YOU STILL NOT HAVE ANY KIDS? CHILDREN ARE EVERYTHING, YOU SHOULD KNOW. WELL, CHILDREN, YOU REALLY HAVE TO HAVE THEM.
HELLO, FATHER
YES, THANK YOU!
HAH, FROM MOM AS WELL ...
WHAT? SEX?
WE AREN'T DOING ANY-THING!
HAH ...
...
YES ...
YES ...
KIDS

SHE CAN'T EVEN MAKE ME GET IT UP AN INCH !!!
カッチーン
DAD! WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
D- D- D- ...
BUT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CHOSE HER WITHOUT ASKING ME, RIGHT?
THIS ONE IS ABSO-LUTELY DIFFERENT !!
I LIKE WOMEN WHO ARE GOOD-LOOKING, RICH, UNSO-CIABLE AND ALWAYS ANGRY!
OH
OK ...
LET'S EAT!
SOSUKE ...
OR RATHER, DO YOU WANNA DO IT WITH ME?
!
... DO YOU WANT KIDS?
WELL ...
AHM, MICHI

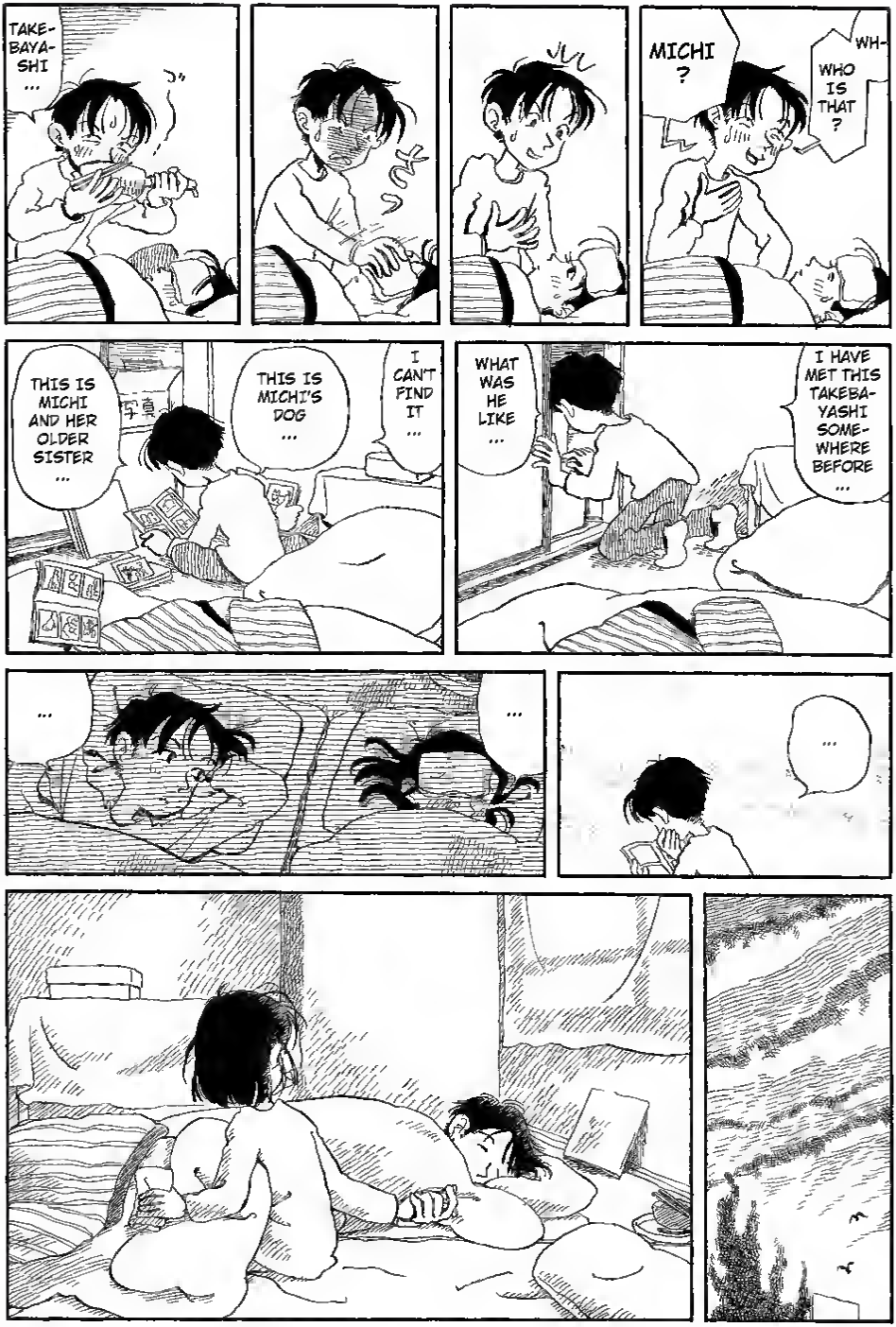

...
...
MICHI
...
?
NOTHING REALLY ...
SO WHAT WAS THAT THING YOU ASKED ABOUT?
I CUT THE EGGPLANTS, SO I WANTED TO POLISH THE KNIFE BEFORE I FORGOT.

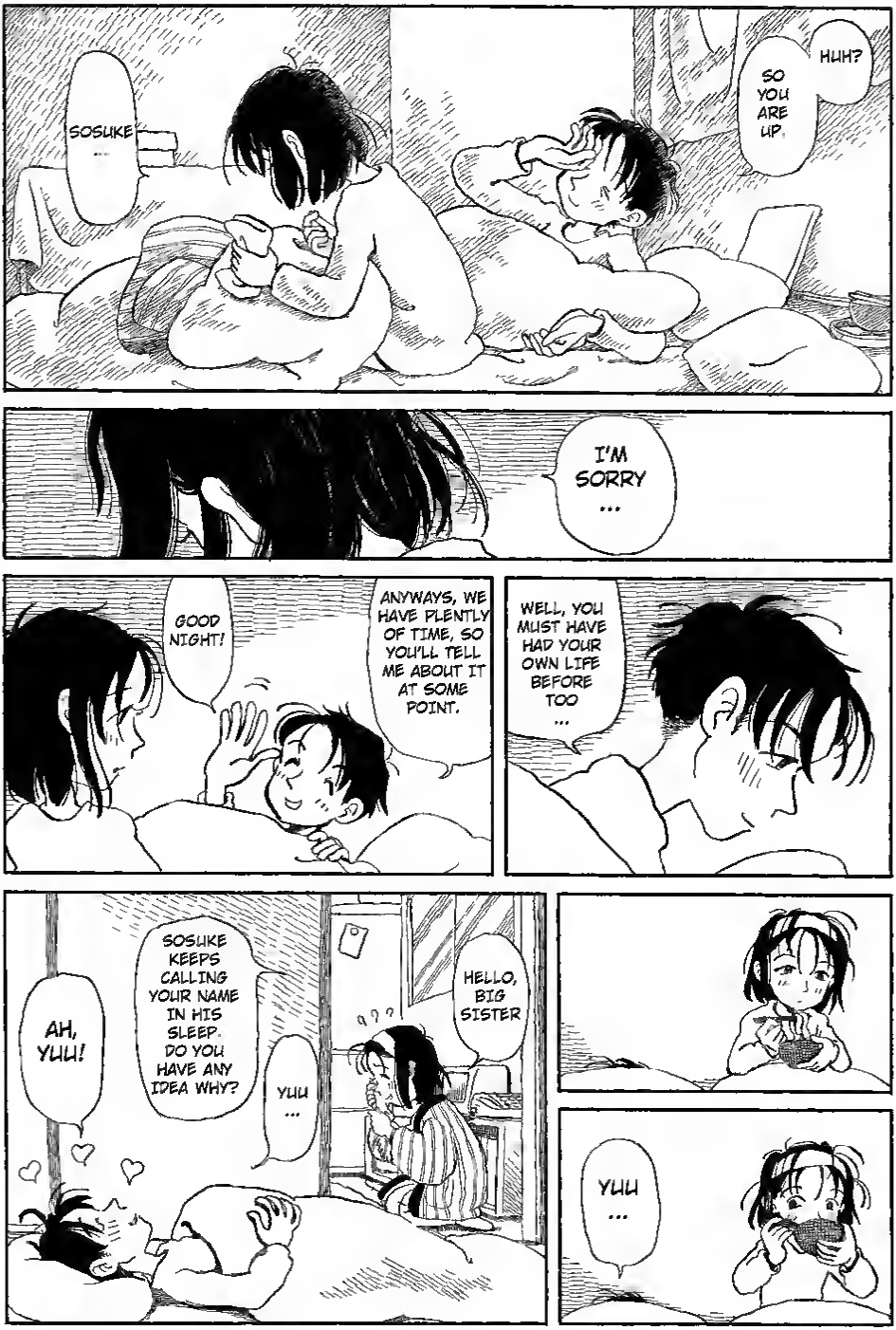

Is That So?
IS THAT SO ...
I GOT FIRED AGAIN ...
SORRY, MICHI.
IS TH-AT SO
ERHM, THIS IS AN OLD COLLE-AGUE ...
IS TH-AT SO !
WOW! I WON! I WON!
IS TH-AT SO ?
BY THE WAY, I HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU SHOCKED, MICHI.
ぎ
...
...AH BE CAREFUL ...
MICHI !! I LOVE YOU!!

I DON'T KNOW MYSELF, BUT IF YOU SAY SO, THEN IT MUST BE.
IS THAT SO ...
JUST TO LET YOU KNOW THAT WAS A LIE.
OF COURSE YOU WEREN'T! YOU ARE SO BORING!
AH, I WAS SHO-CKED
とんとん
...
EVERY DAY IS PRETTY FUN!
BUT WHEN I'M WITH YOU, I'M HAVING A GOOD TIME!
SOME-HOW I AM DULLER THAN USUAL.
駅
AH ...
野球
平和貯金

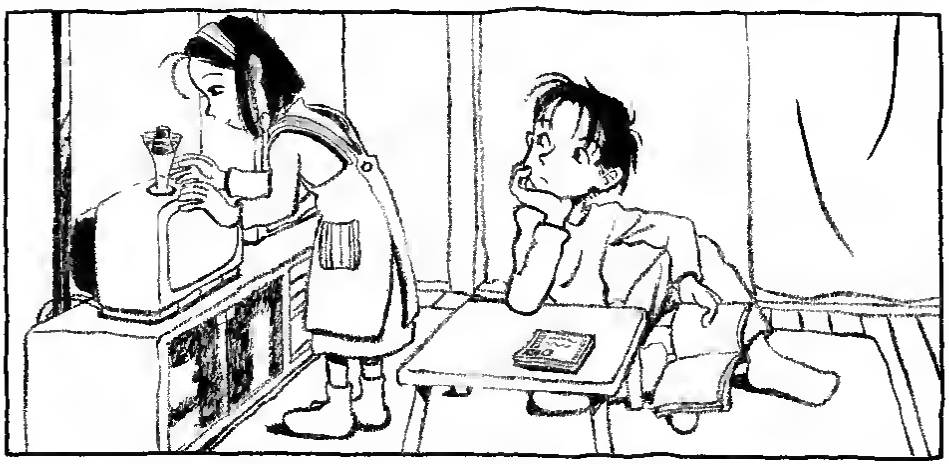
SOSUKE, YOU DONATED ...
500 YEN !!
SO- ...
HERE YOU GO, GOOD WORK
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WORLD PEACE
AH, SO-RRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING.
AFTER ALL, WE SHOULD DONATE SOME MONEY AT TIMES LIKE THIS.
HUH ?
...
...
MI-MICHI !?
...
COME ON, I GOT IT THAT YOU ARE SHOCKED ALREADY!!

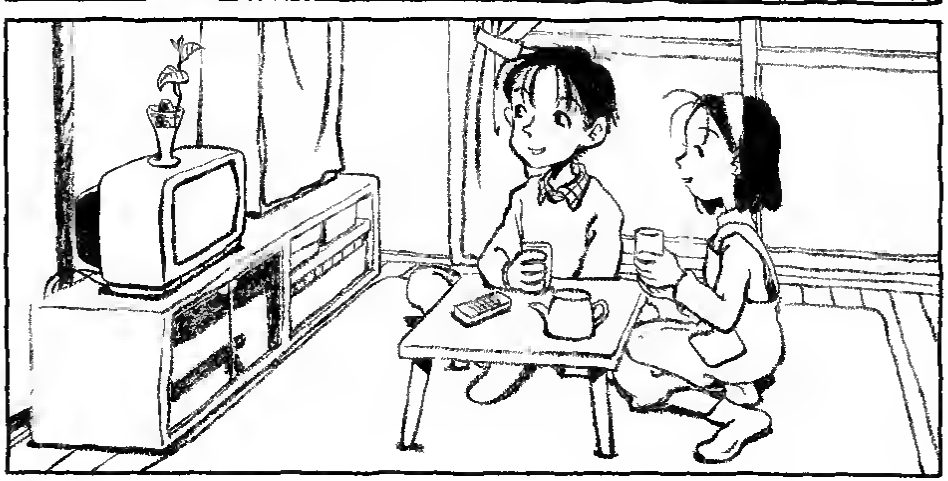
In My Dreams
...
DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
YOU ARE HOT.
I'M SO-RRY ...
TAKE-BAYA-SHI ...
AH ...
...

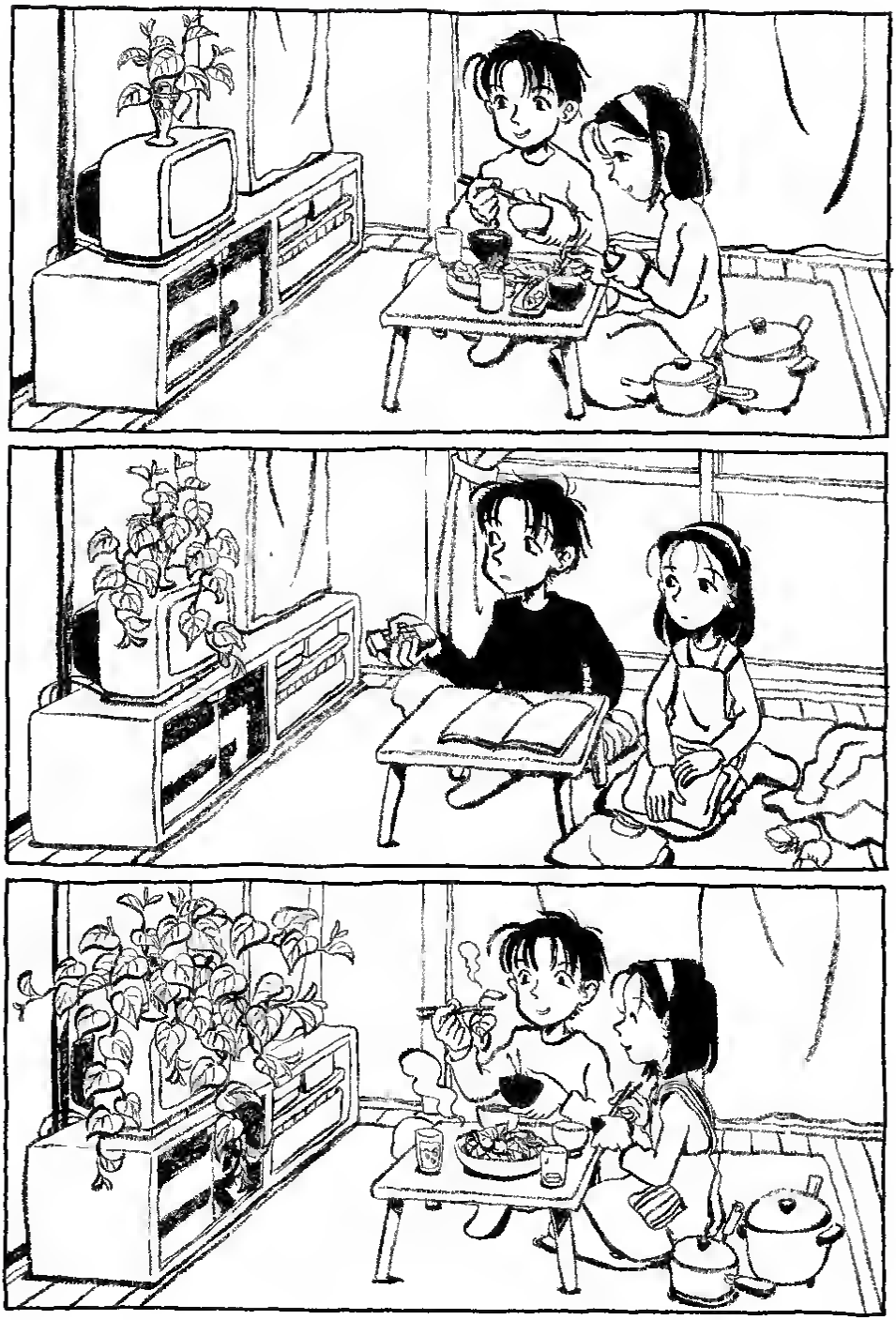

TAKE-BAYA-SHI ...
MICHI ?
WH-
WHO IS THAT ?
I CAN'T FIND IT ...
THIS IS MICHI'S DOG ...
THIS IS MICHI AND HER OLDER SISTER ...
WHAT WAS HE LIKE ...
I HAVE MET THIS TAKEBA-YASHI SOME-WHERE BEFORE ...
...
...
...

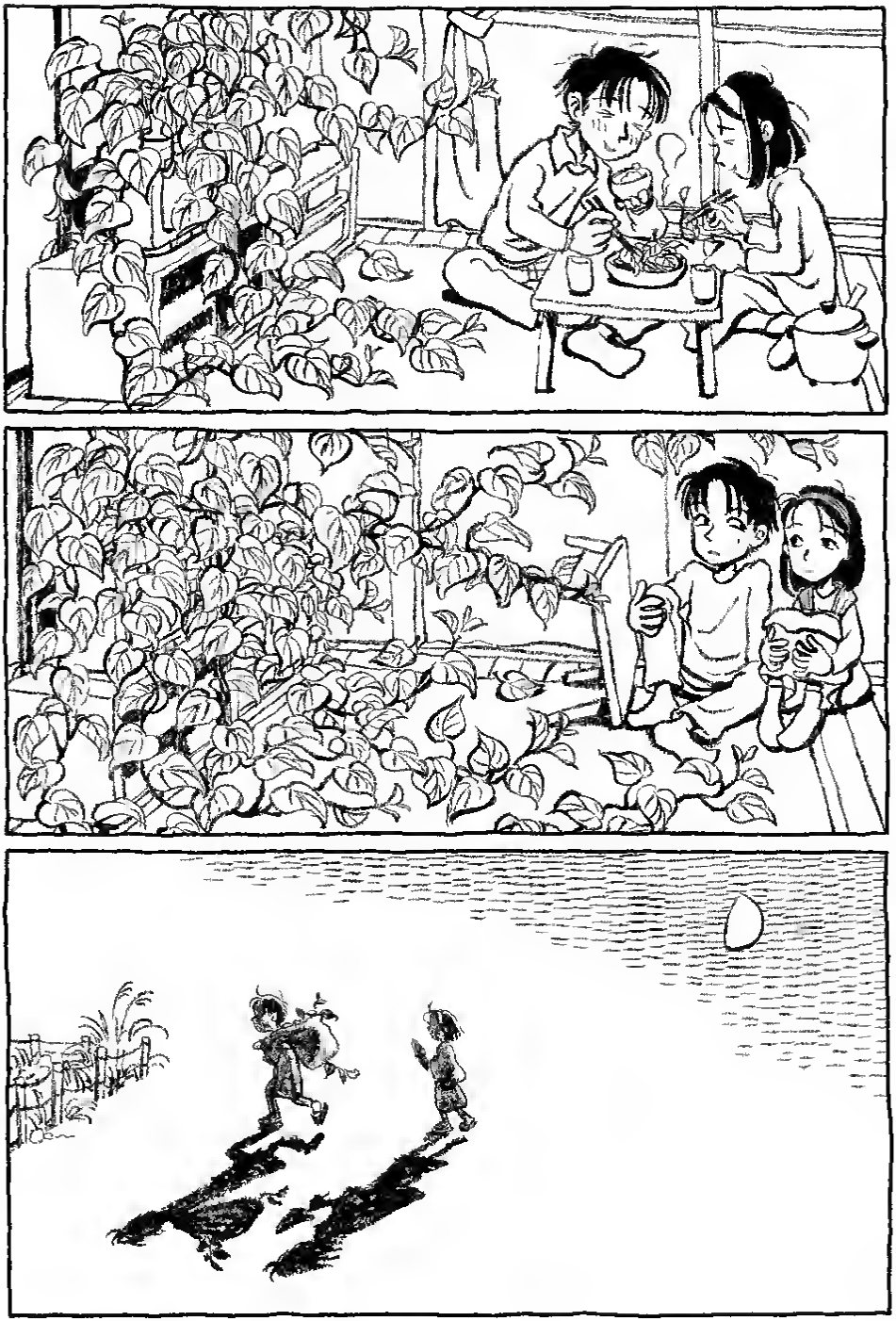

SOSUKE ...
HUH? SO YOU ARE UP.
I'M SORRY ...
GOOD NIGHT!
ANYWAYS, WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME, SO YOU'LL TELL ME ABOUT IT AT SOME POINT.
WELL, YOU MUST HAVE HAD YOUR OWN LIFE BEFORE TOO ...
AH, YUU!
SOSUKE KEEPS CALLING YOUR NAME IN HIS SLEEP. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHY?
YUU ...
HELLO, BIG SISTER
YUU ...

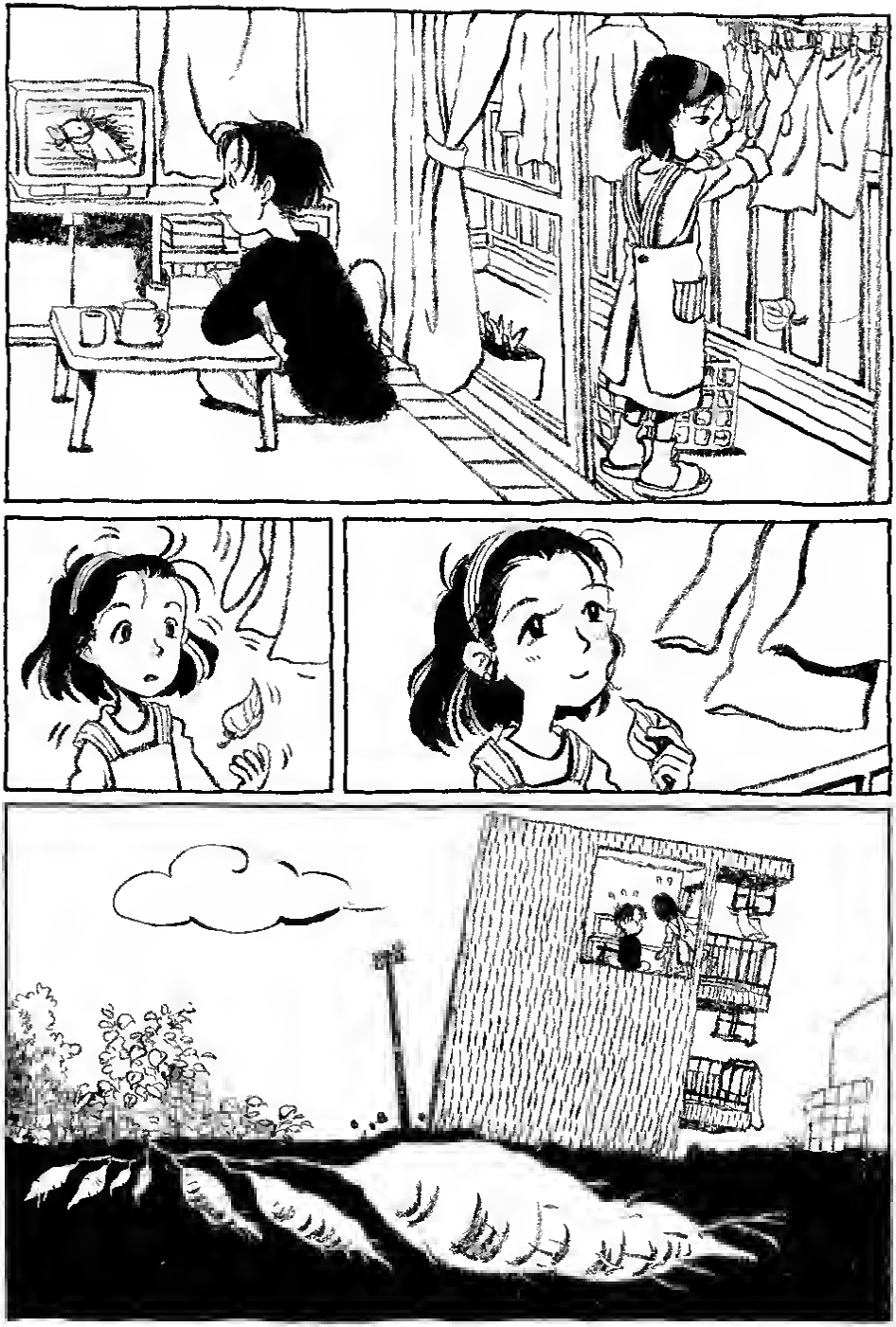
Sweet Potato Girl

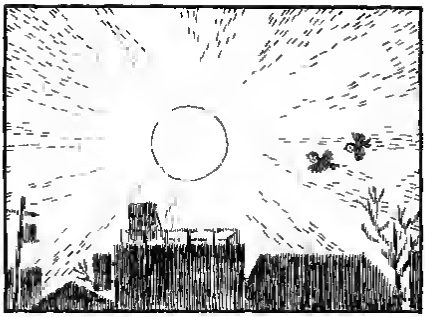


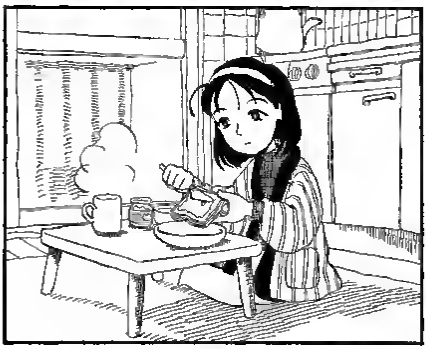


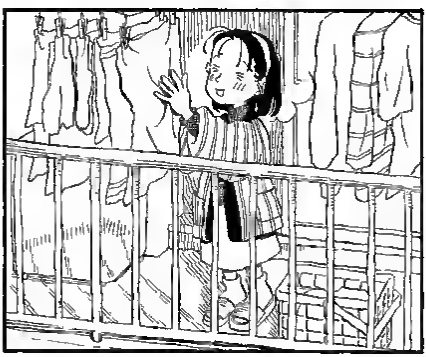


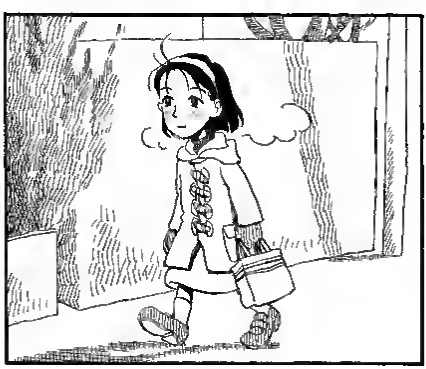




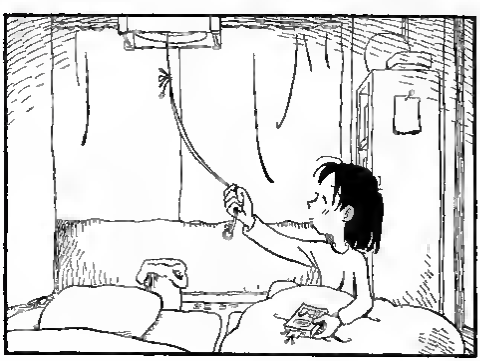


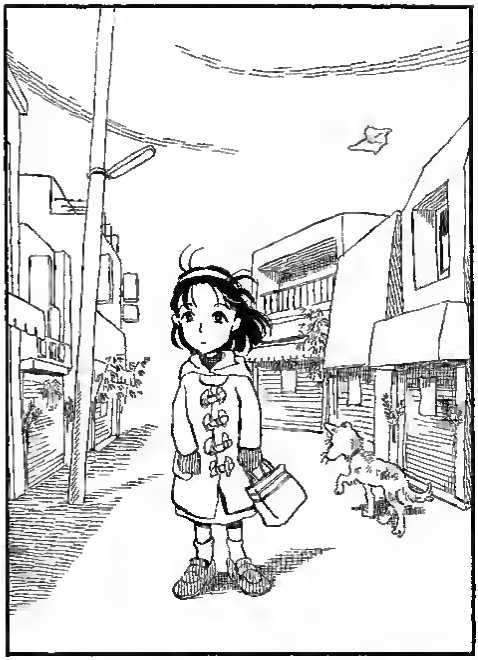


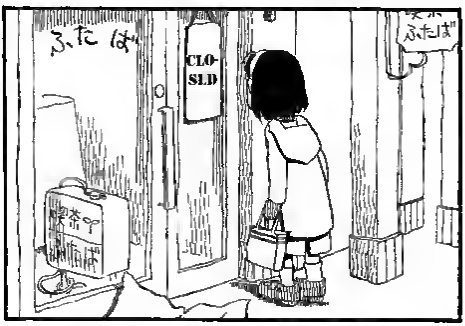


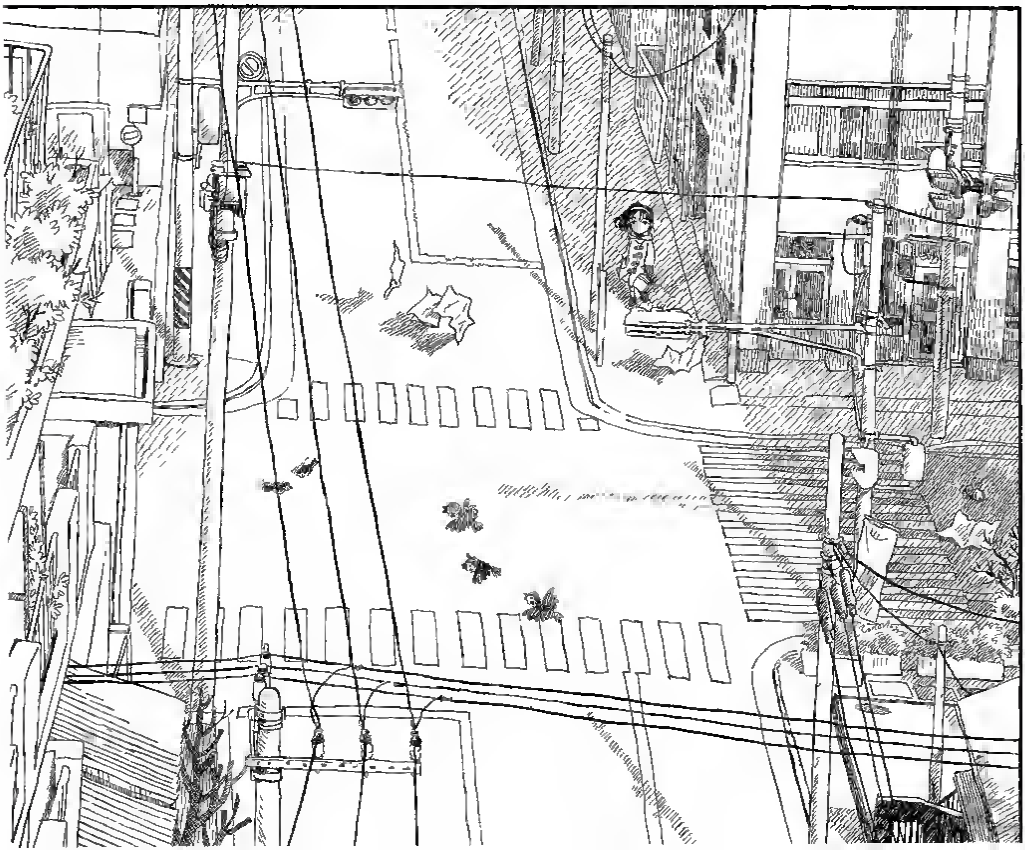


The First Day
営業中
ふたば
喫茶
ふたば

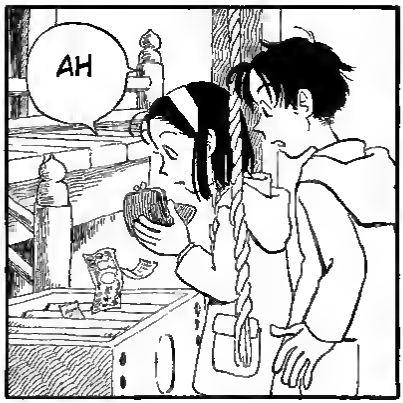


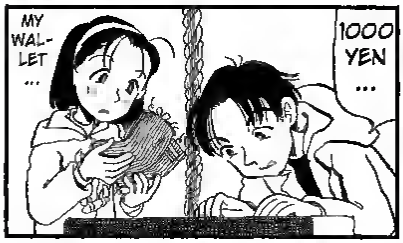


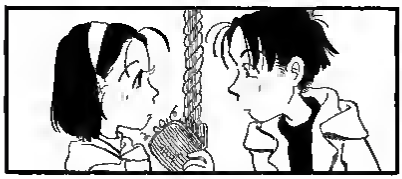

ふたば
CLO-
SED

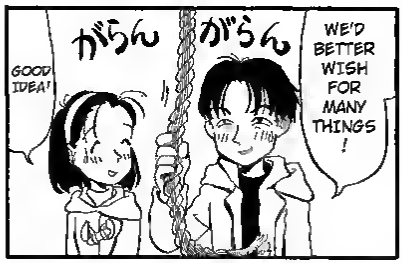


AH, MICHI!
SOS-UKE!
SO IT'S NEW YEAR'S DAY!!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
AH ...
I MYSELF BELIEVE IN THE SAYING "THE WHOLE YEAR'S PLANS ARE MADE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY."
I WAS HOPING THAT AT LEAST TODAY I COULD GET AWAY WITHOUT SEEING THIS TASTELESS WOMAN!
HOW MANY RICE CAKES DO YOU WANT?
HOW COULD YOU FORGET ABOUT THAT ...
I THOUGHT IT WAS THE LAST DAY OF THE HUMAN RACE ...

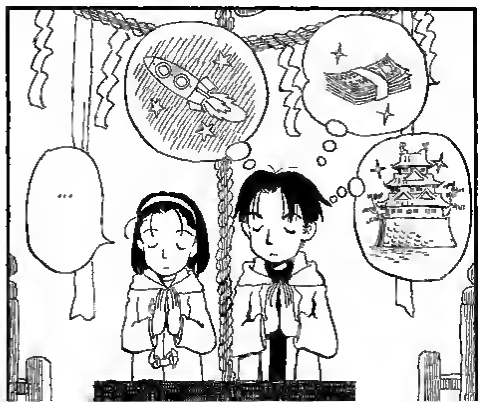

AH

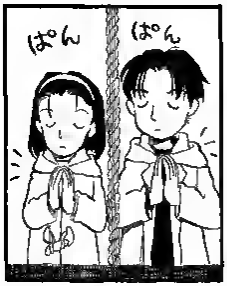

MY WAL-LET ...
1000 YEN ...

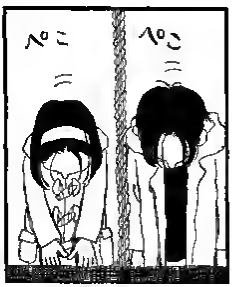


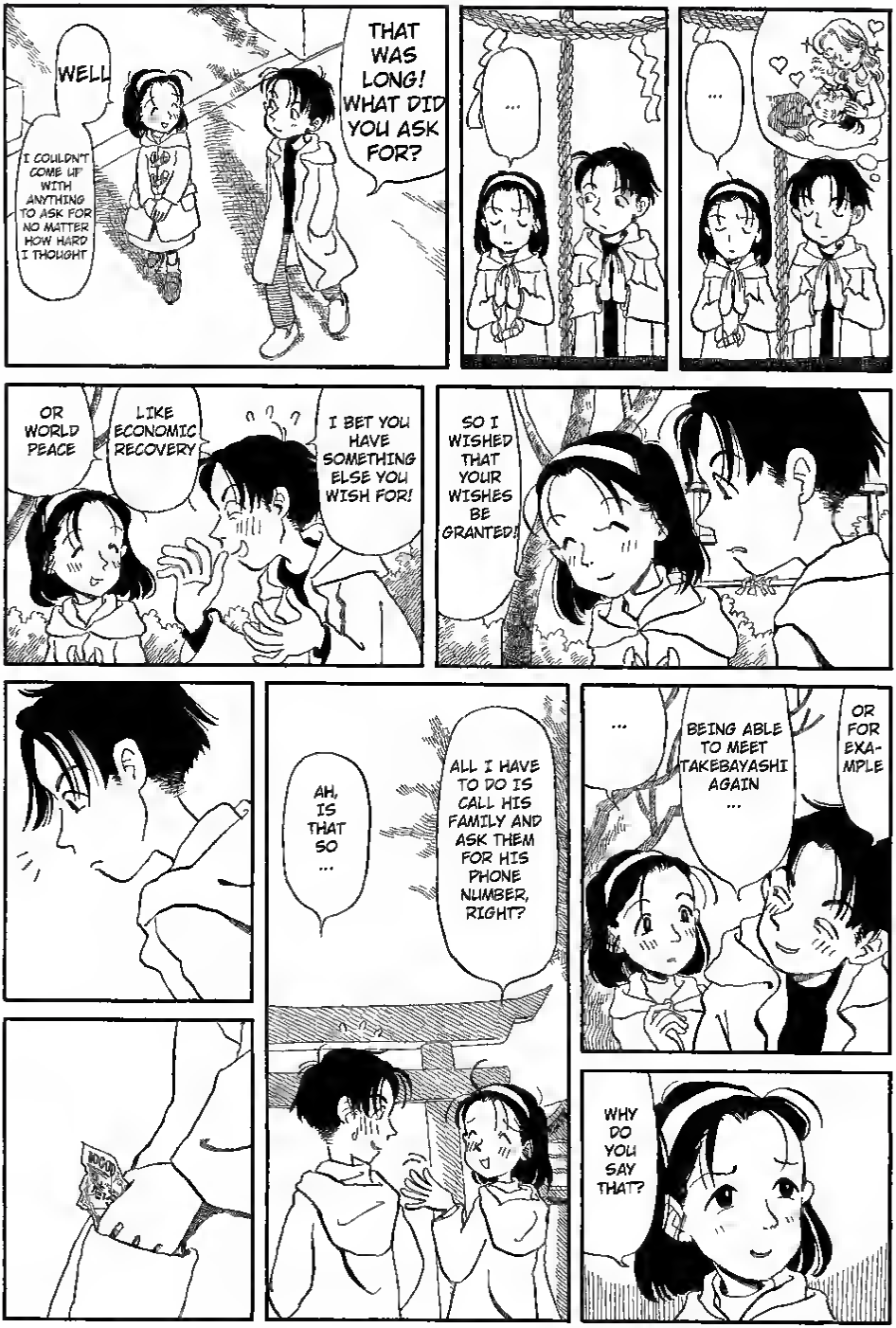

がらん
がらん
GOOD IDEA!
WE'D BETTER WISH FOR MANY THINGS!

The Country of Yen
YEAH, I GUESS YOU ARE RIGHT.
AH, WE DIDN'T GO TO THE SHRINE FOR THE NEW YEAR YET, RIGHT?

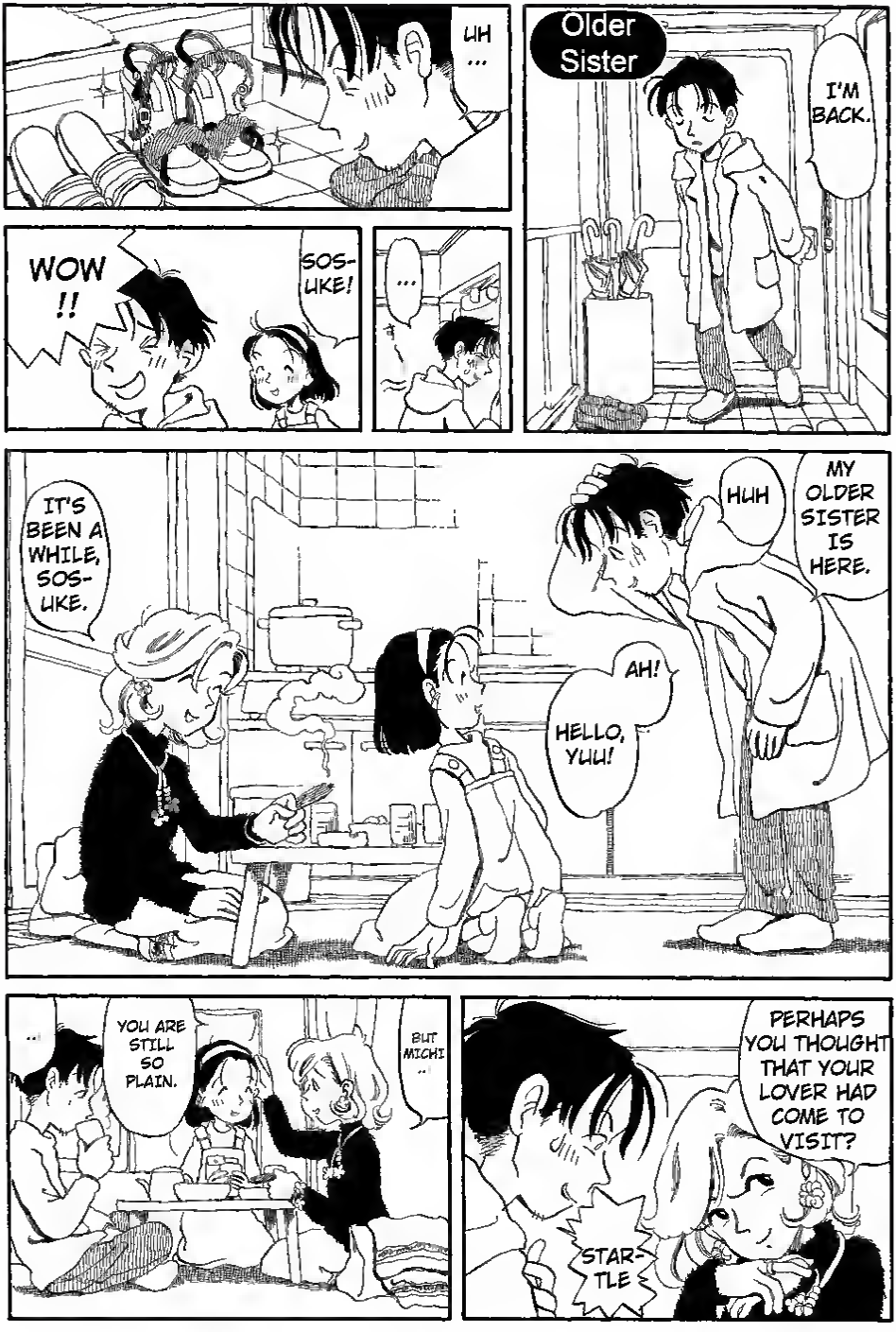

...

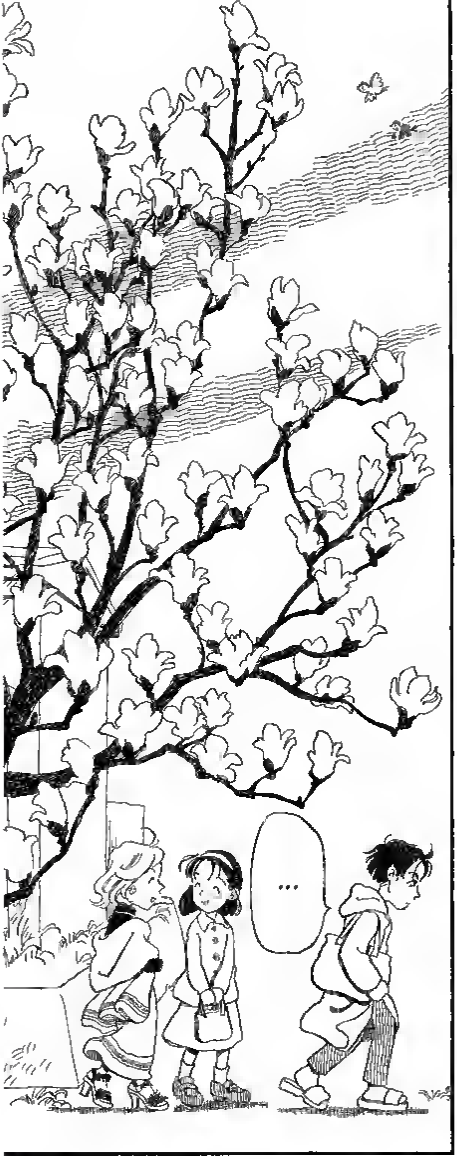

ぱん
ぱん

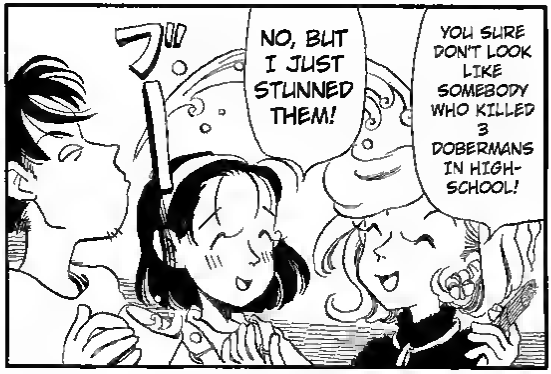

ぺこ
ぺこ

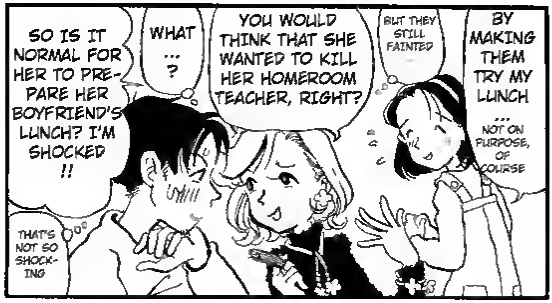

WELL
I COULDN'T COME UP WITH ANYTHING TO ASK FOR NO MATTER HOW HARD I THOUGHT
THAT WAS LONG! WHAT DID YOU ASK FOR?
...
...
I BET YOU HAVE SOMETHING ELSE YOU WISH FOR!
LIKE ECONOMIC RECOVERY
OR WORLD PEACE
SO I WISHED THAT YOUR WISHES BE GRANTED!
AH, IS THAT SO ...
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CALL HIS FAMILY AND ASK THEM FOR HIS PHONE NUMBER, RIGHT?
...
BEING ABLE TO MEET TAKEBAYASHI AGAIN ...
OR FOR EXA-MPLE
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?

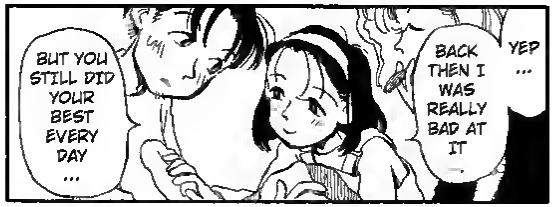
OK, I'M GOING TO MAKE ONE OF YOUR WISHES COME TRUE NOW.
SEE YOU LATER!
?
WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED ...
SUDDEN PROFIT...
412 YEN, PLEASE
ONE PACKAGE OF SESAME, PLEASE
AH
TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT, OK?
YES.
SOS- LIKE ...
ZENI
WELL
THANK YOU!
YEP ...
SO, ALL WE HAD WAS THAT 1,000 YEN BILL ...
A COUNTRY WITH A REALLY HIGH LIVING STANDARD ...
WHICH COUNTRY USES "BALLS" AS THEIR CURRENCY?


UH ...
Older Sister
I'M BACK.
WOW !!
SOS-UKE!
...
MY OLDER SISTER IS HERE.
HUH
AH!
HELLO, YUU!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, SOS-UKE.
...
YOU ARE STILL SO PLAIN.
BUT MICHI ..
PERHAPS YOU THOUGHT THAT YOUR LOVER HAD COME TO VISIT?
STAR-TLE


...

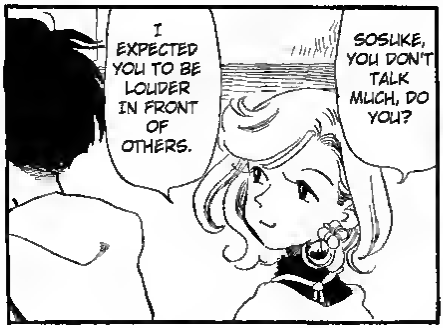

フ!!
NO, BUT I JUST STUNNED THEM!
YOU SURE DON'T LOOK LIKE SOMEBODY WHO KILLED 3 DOBERMANS IN HIGH-SCHOOL!

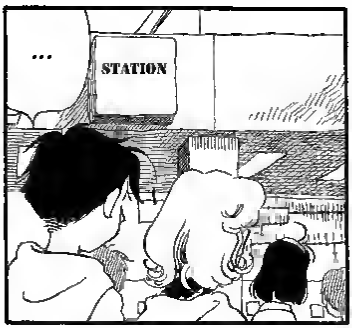

SO IS IT NORMAL FOR HER TO PREPARE HER BOYFRIEND'S LUNCH? I'M SHOCKED !!
WHAT ...?
YOU WOULD THINK THAT SHE WANTED TO KILL HER HOMEROOM TEACHER, RIGHT?
BUT THEY STILL FAINTED
BY MAKING THEM TRY MY LUNCH ...
NOT ON PURPOSE, OF COURSE
THAT'S NOT SO SHOCKING

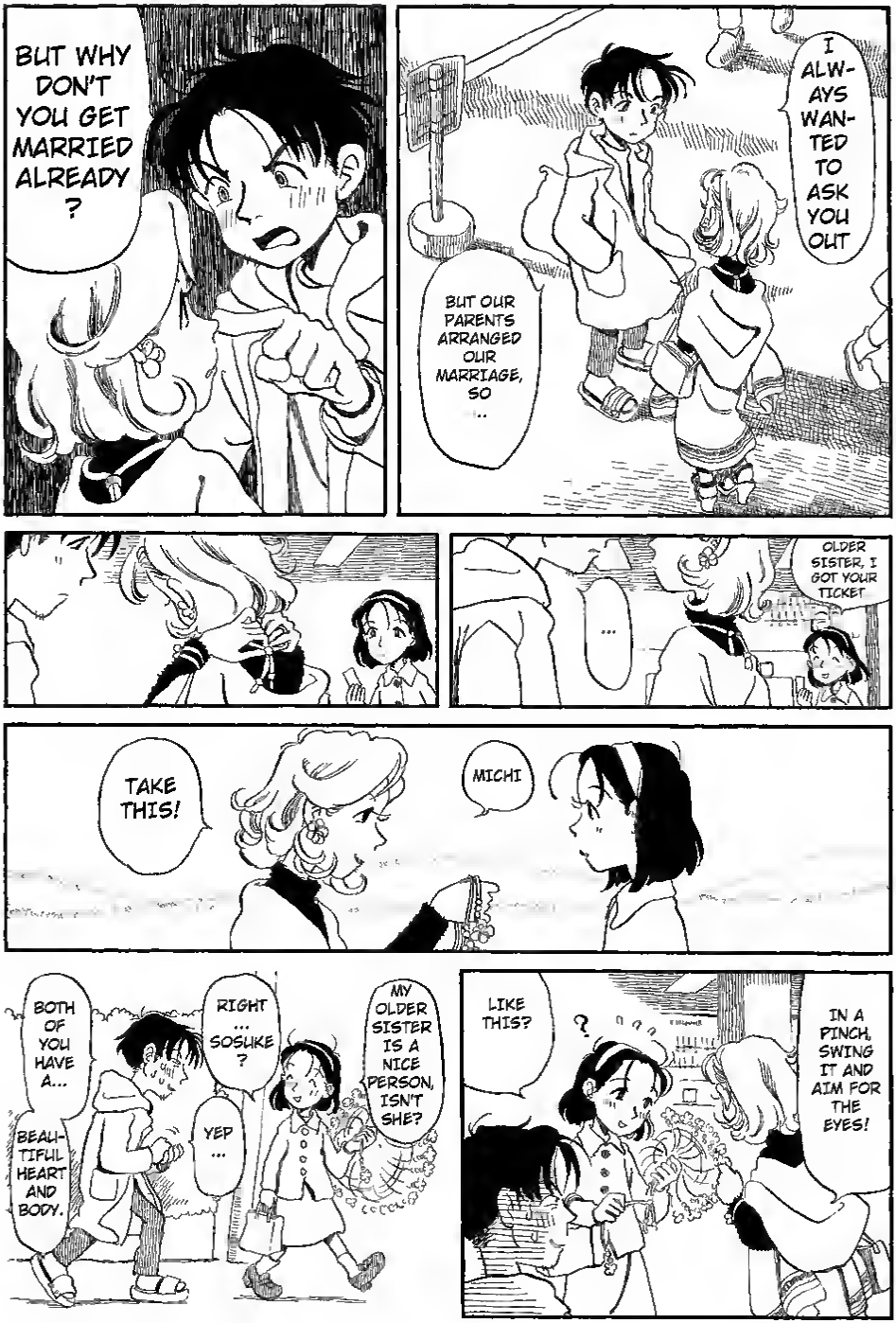

BUT YOU STILL DID YOUR BEST EVERY DAY ...
BACK THEN I WAS REALLY BAD AT IT
YEP ...

LET'S QUIT TALKING ABOUT THIS ALREADY ...

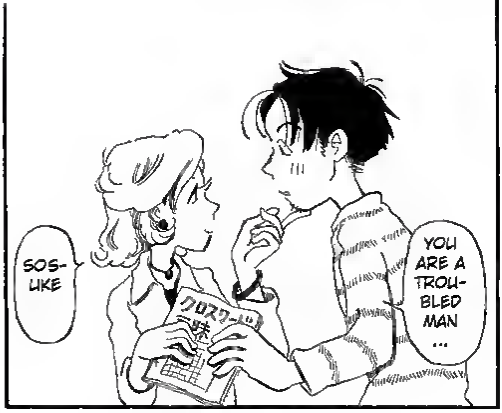
YUU ...

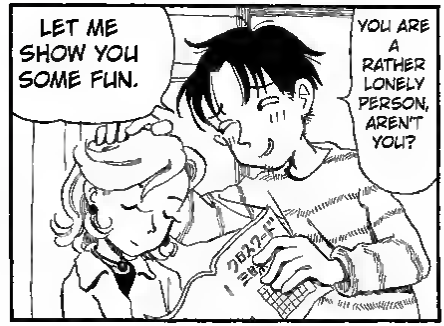

I EXPECTED YOU TO BE LOUDER IN FRONT OF OTHERS.
SOSUKE, YOU DON'T TALK MUCH, DO YOU?

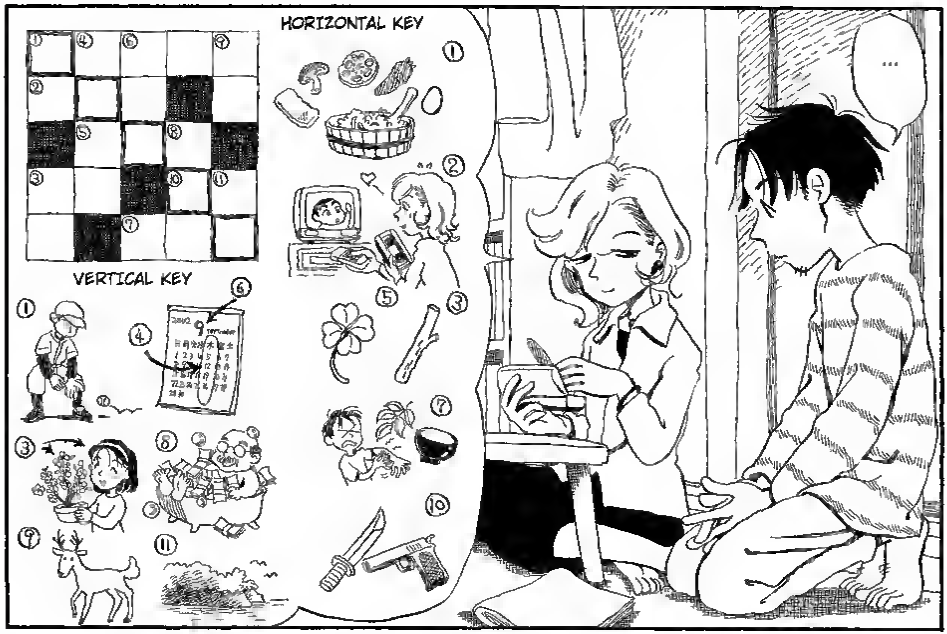

...
STATION

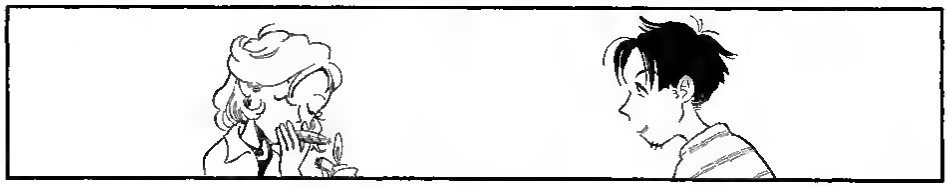

BUT WHY DON'T YOU GET MARRIED ALREADY ?
I ALW-AYS WAN-TED TO ASK YOU OUT
BUT OUR PARENTS ARRANGED OUR MARRIAGE, SO ...
...
OLDER SISTER, I GOT YOUR TICKET
TAKE THIS!
MICHI
BOTH OF YOU HAVE A... BEAU-TIFUL HEART AND BODY.
RIGHT ... SOSUKE ?
YEP ...
MY OLDER SISTER IS A NICE PERSON, ISN'T SHE?
LIKE THIS?
?
IN A PINCH, SWING IT AND AIM FOR THE EYES!

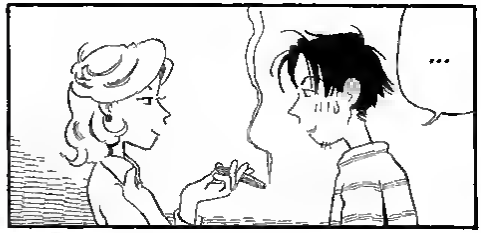
Crossword Puzzles

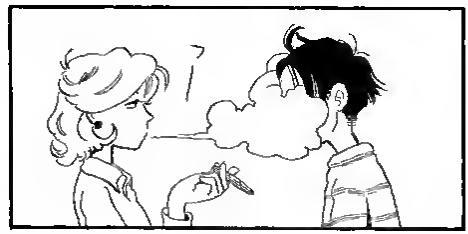

SOS-UKE
クロスワード
YOU ARE A TROU-BLED MAN ...

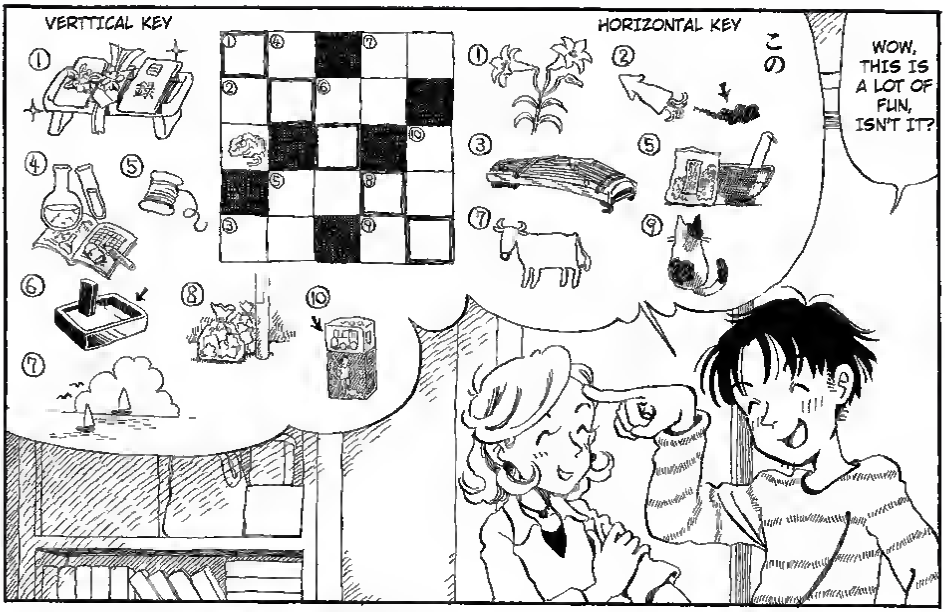

LET ME SHOW YOU SOME FUN.
YOU ARE A RATHER LONELY PERSON, AREN'T YOU?
クロスワード

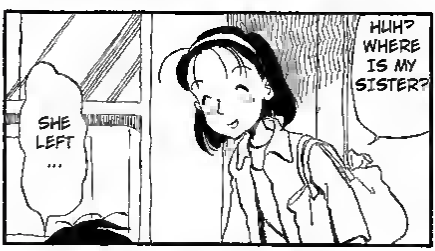

HORIZONTAL KEY
VERTICAL KEY
...

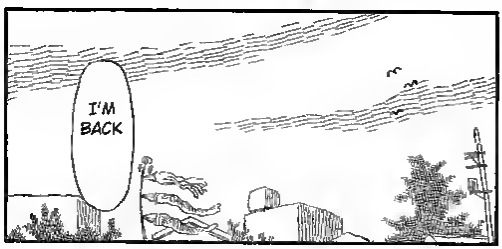



...

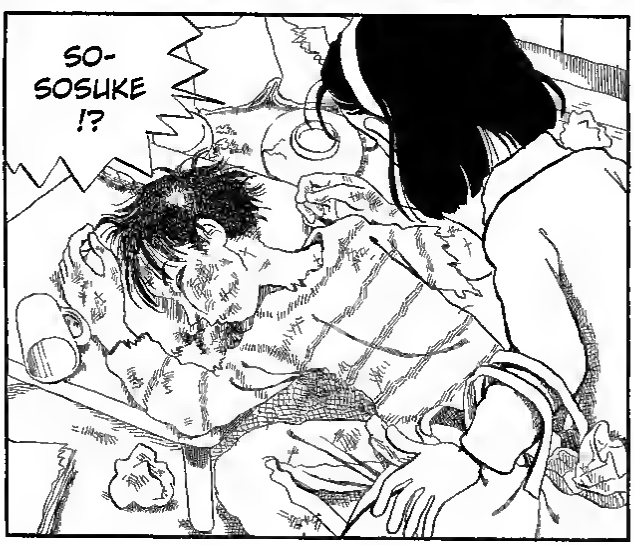


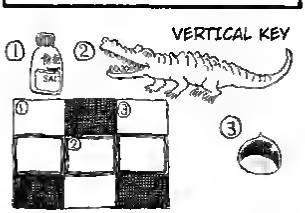

VERTTICAL KEY
HORIZONTAL KEY
WOW, THIS IS A LOT OF FUN, ISN'T IT?

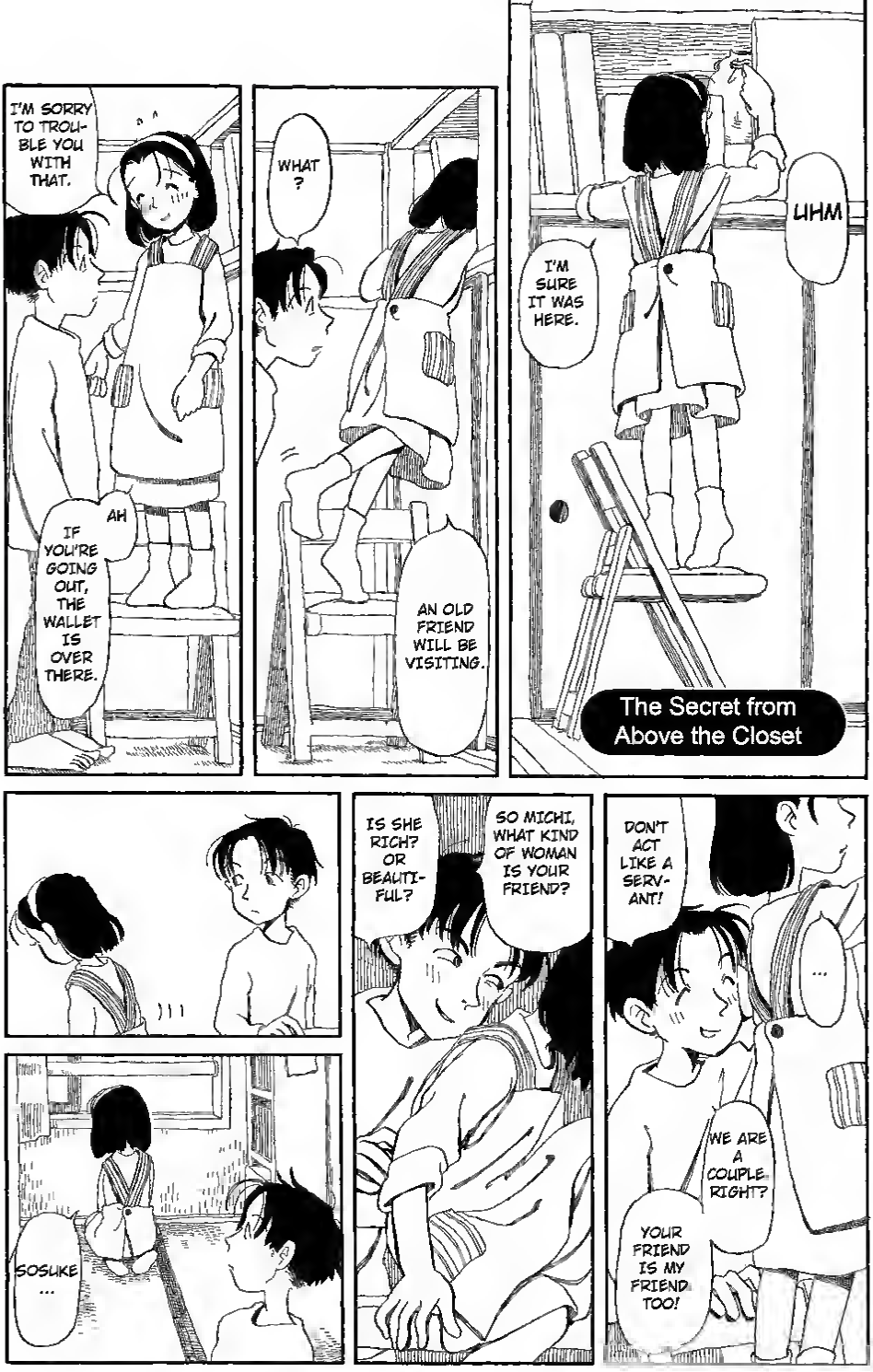

SHE LEFT ...
HUH? WHERE IS MY SISTER?


I'M BACK

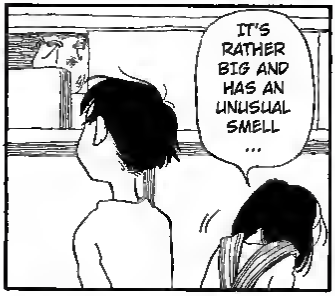
INDEED
YEP ...
YOU SHOULD HAVE NEVER DONE THAT...

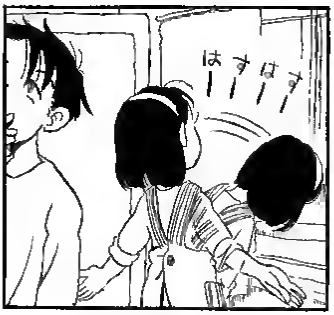

SO-SOSUKE !?

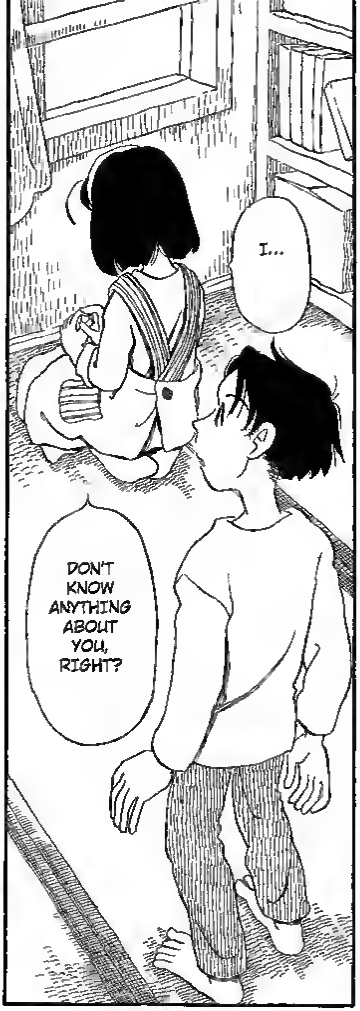

VERTICAL KEY

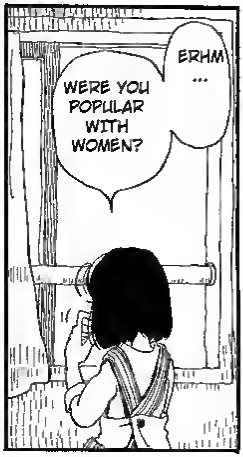

I'M SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU WITH THAT.
AH IF YOU'RE GOING OUT, THE WALLET IS OVER THERE.
WHAT ?
AN OLD FRIEND WILL BE VISITING.
UHM
I'M SURE IT WAS HERE.
The Secret from Above the Closet
SO MICHI, WHAT KIND OF WOMAN IS YOUR FRIEND?
IS SHE RICH? OR BEAUTIFUL?
SOSUKE ...
DON'T ACT LIKE A SERVANT!
...
WE ARE A COUPLE RIGHT?
YOUR FRIEND IS MY FRIEND TOO!

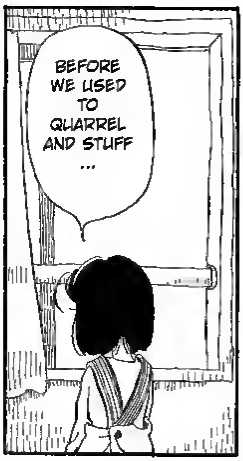
MICHI? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THAT CLOTH BAG


IT'S RATHER BIG AND HAS AN UNUSUAL SMELL ...

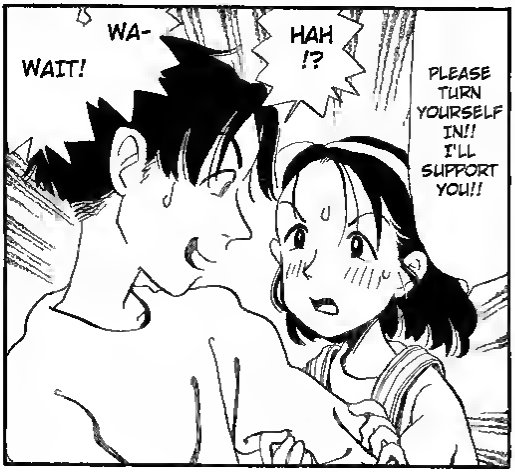

はすはす


I...
DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU, RIGHT?

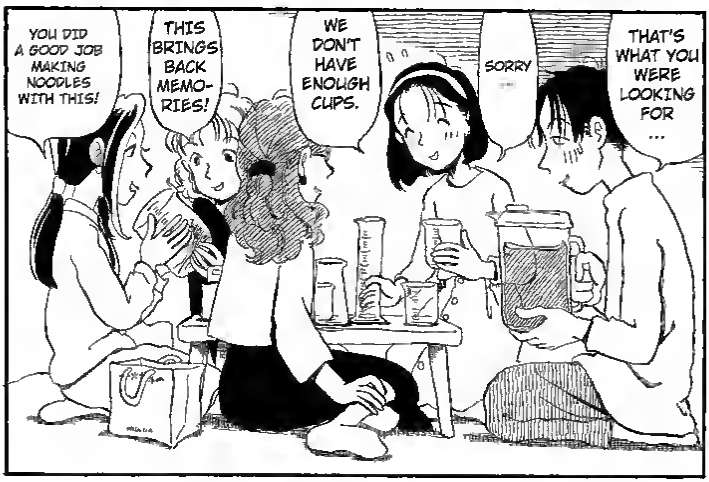

ERHM ...
WERE YOU POPULAR WITH WOMEN?

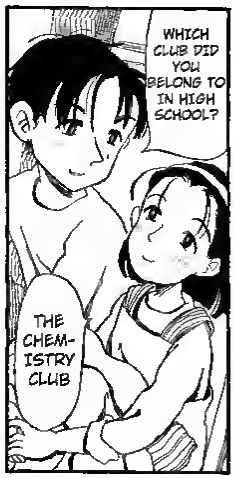

BEFORE WE USED TO QUARREL AND STUFF ...

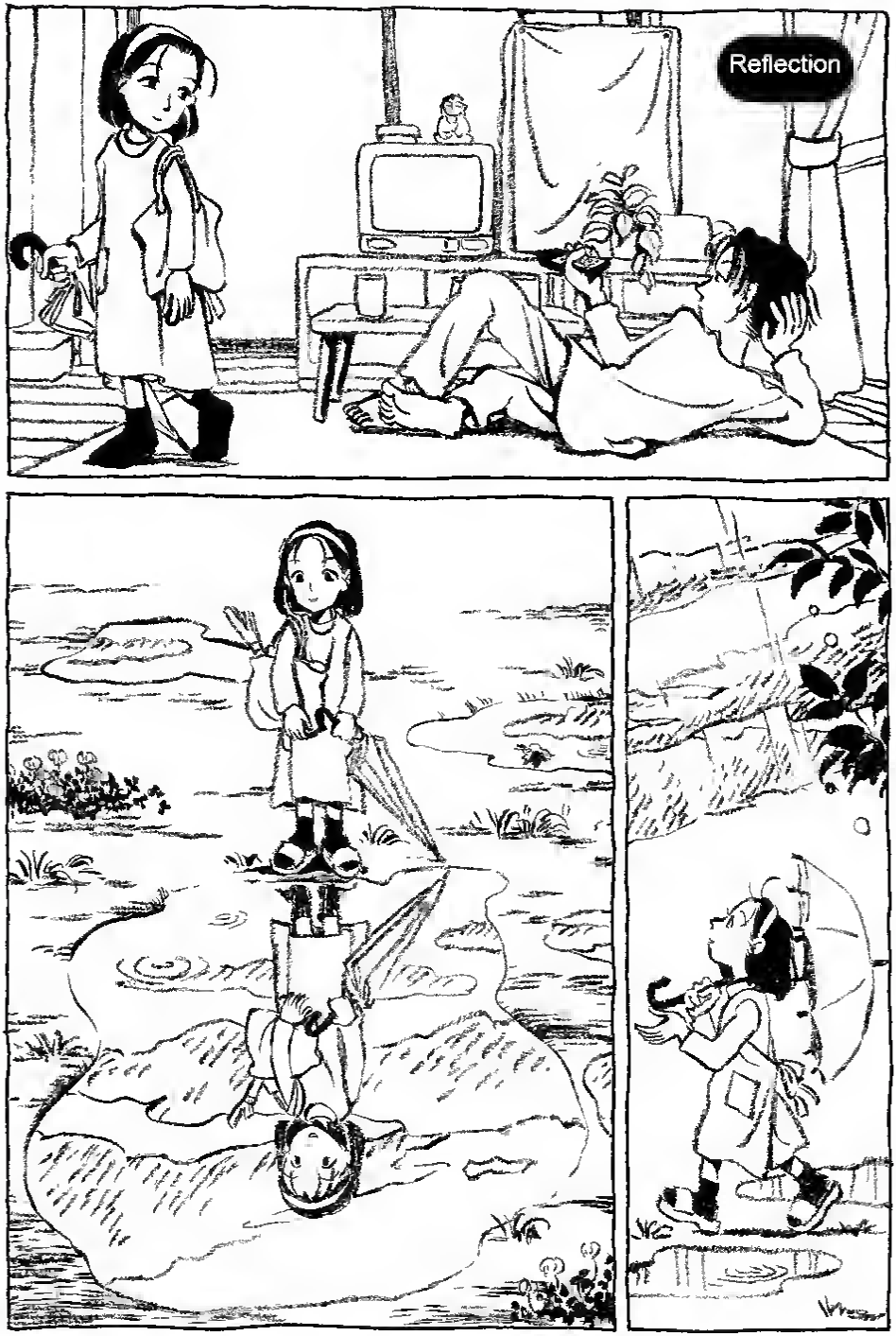
ごしごし
ごしごし

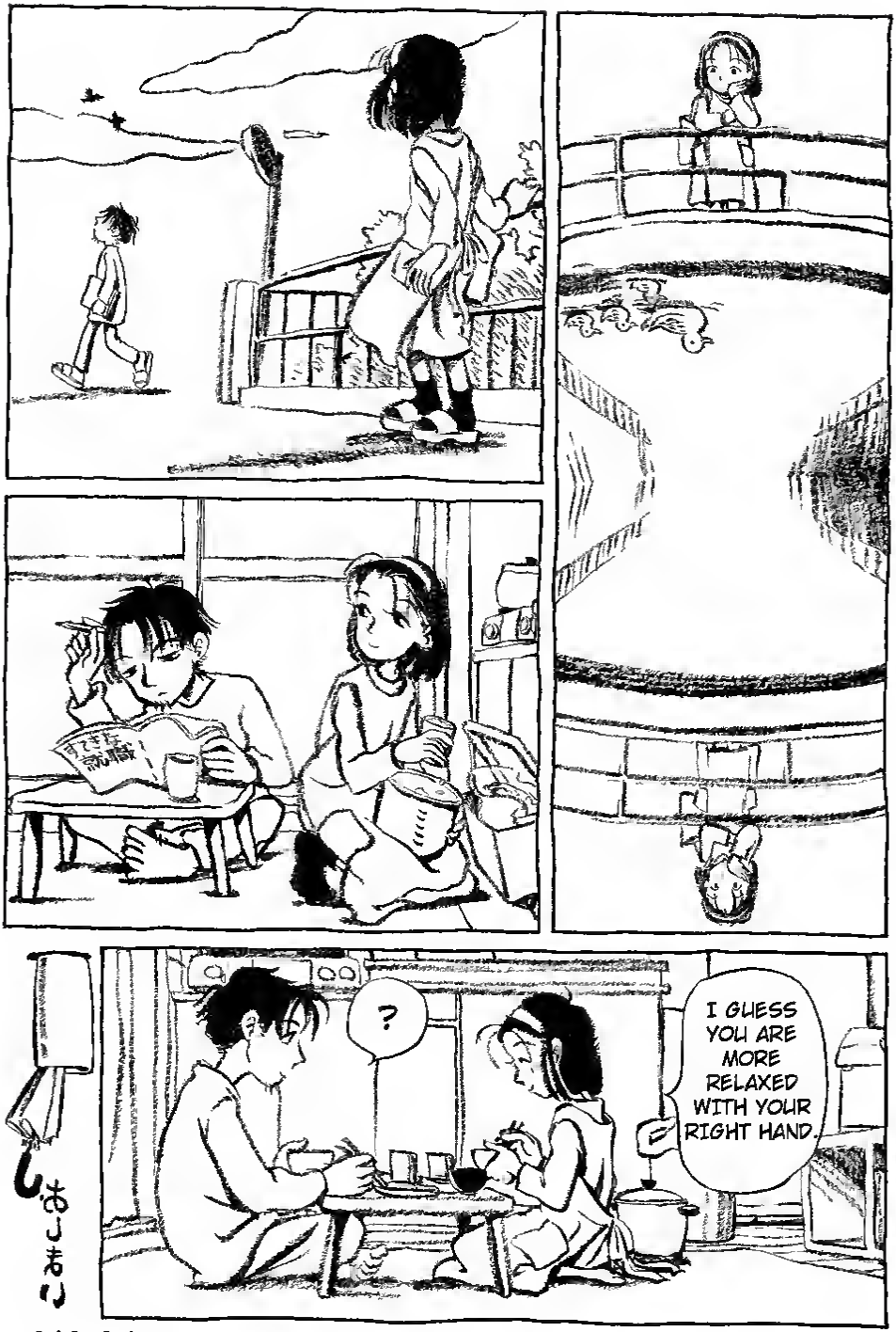

WA-
WAIT!
HAH !?
PLEASE TURN YOURSELF IN!! I'LL SUPPORT YOU!!

SO THIS WAS YOUR KENDO WEAR
I'M SOR-RY
WELL, I HAD BEEN KEEPING THEM THERE SINCE MY LAST MATCH IN HIGH SCHOOL 9 YEARS AGO, SO...

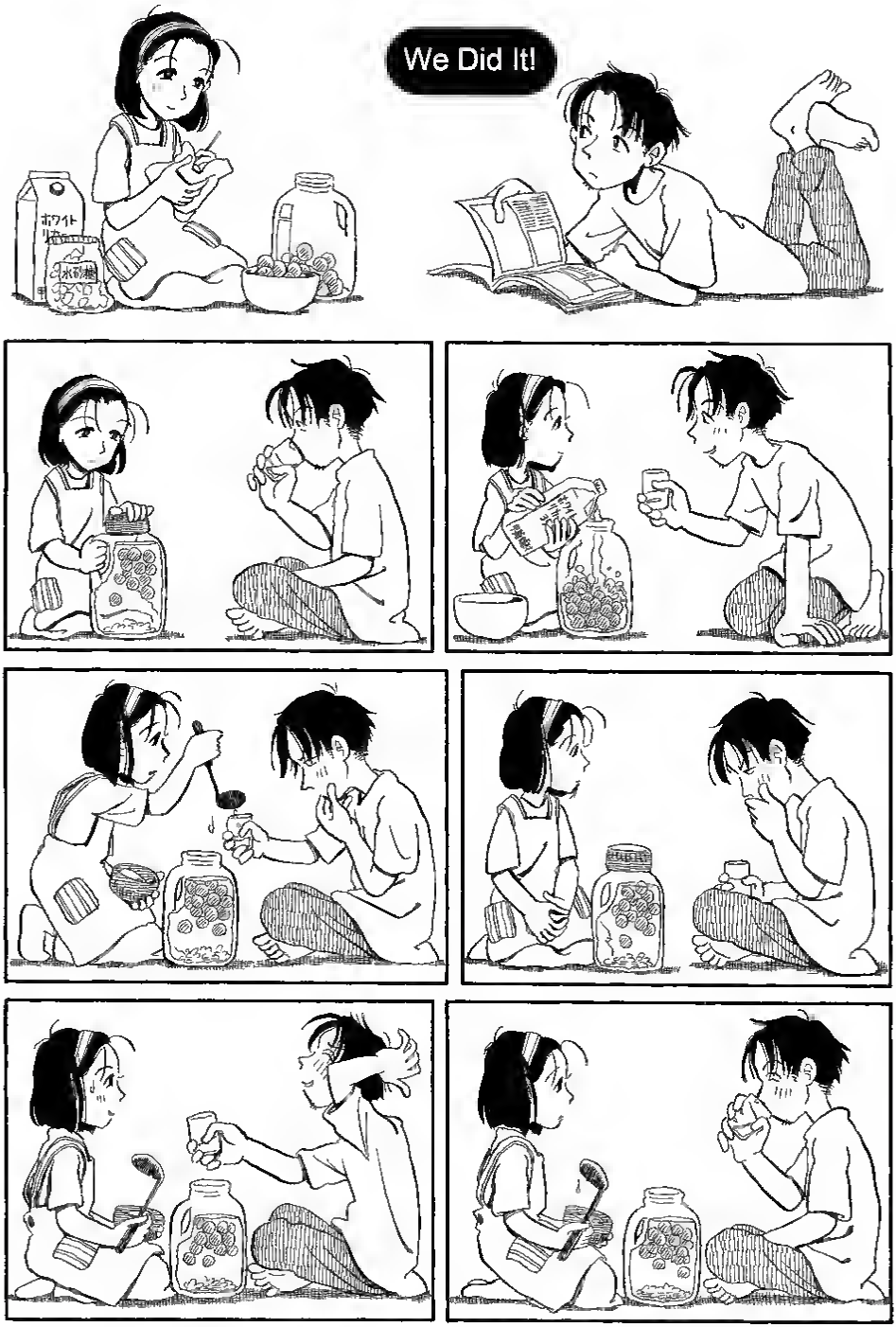

YOU DID A GOOD JOB MAKING NOODLES WITH THIS!
THIS BRINGS BACK MEMO-RIES!
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH CUPS.
SORRY
THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR ...


WHICH CLUB DID YOU BELONG TO IN HIGH SCHOOL?
THE CHEM-ISTRY CLUB


Reflection

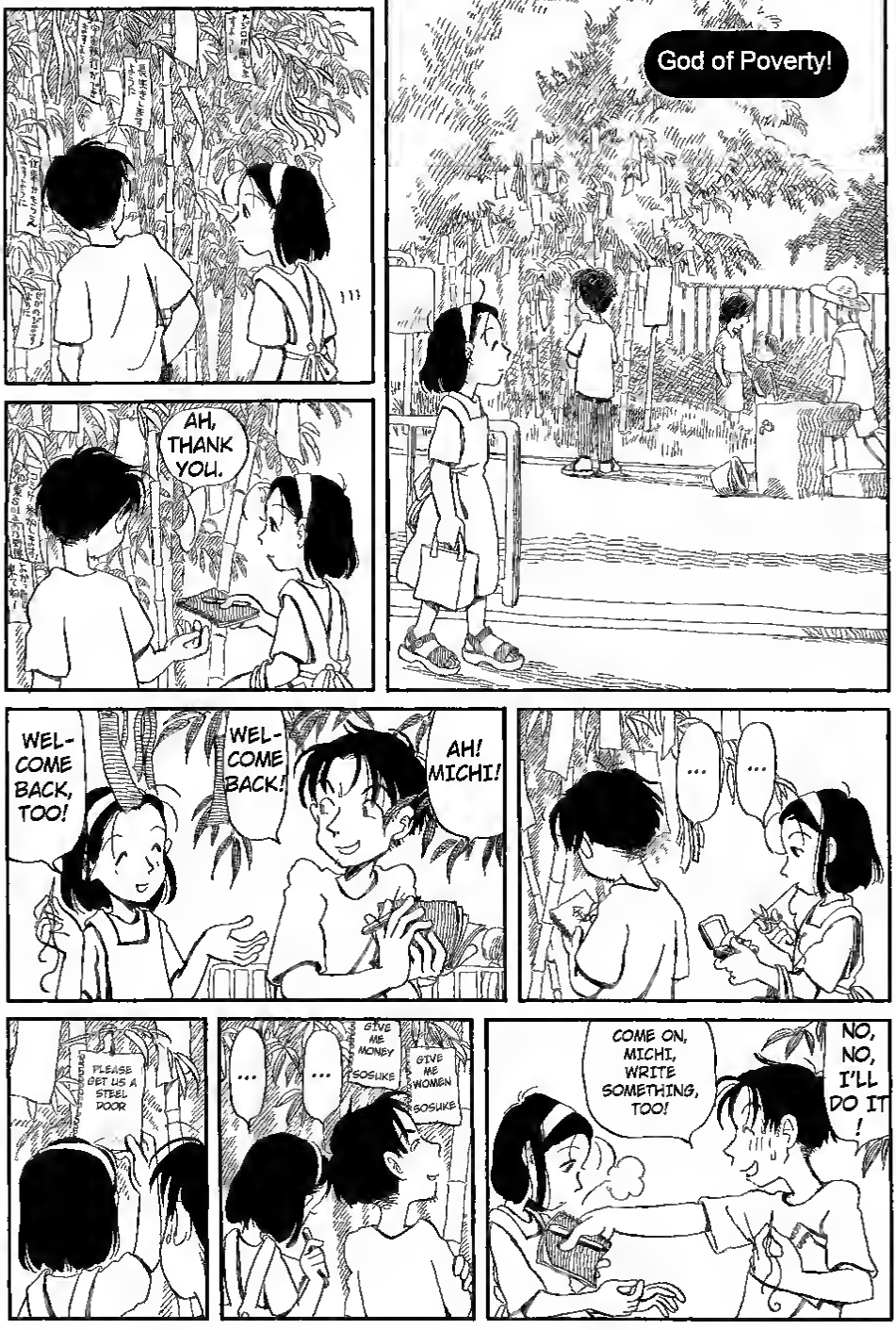


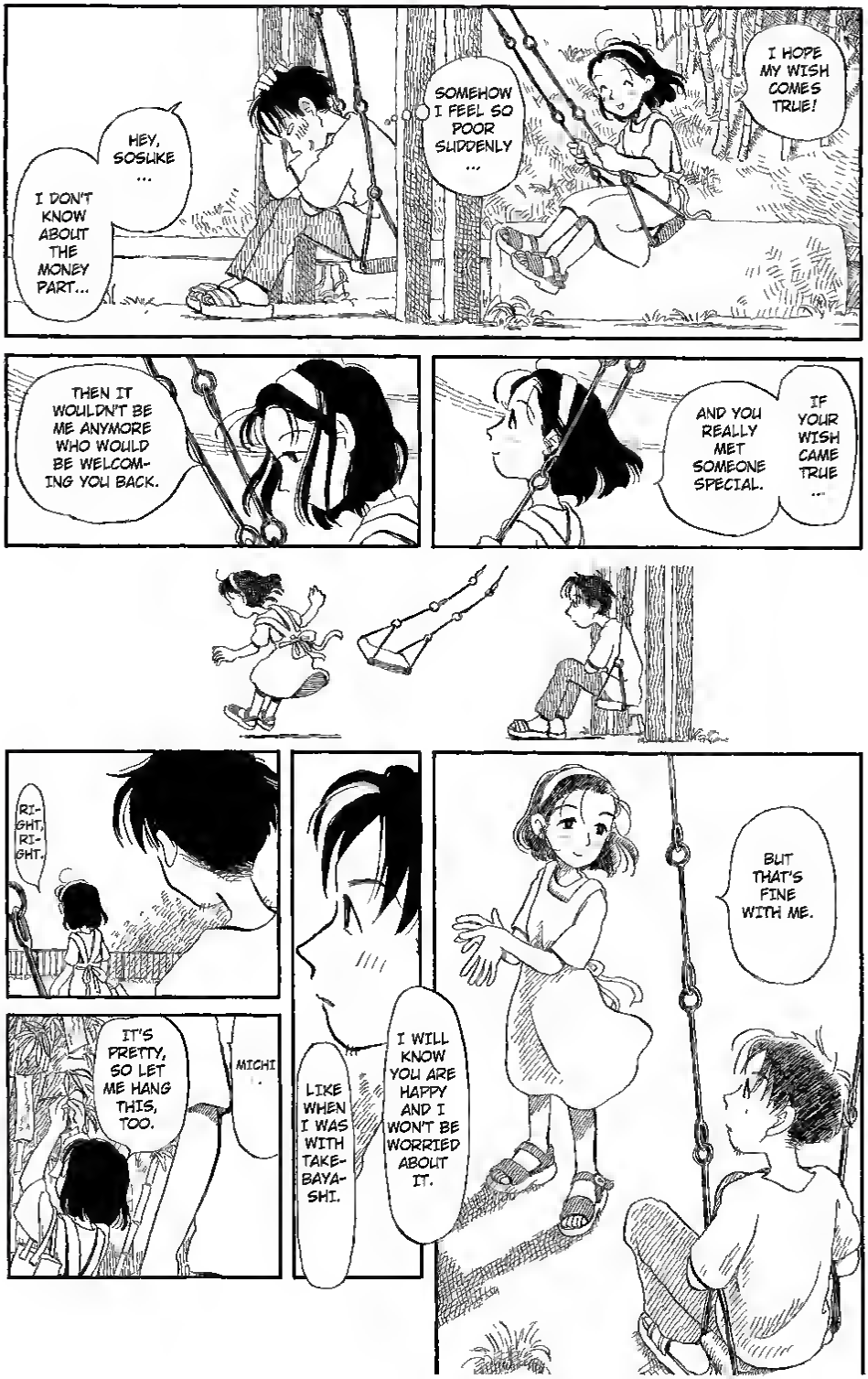
THE END

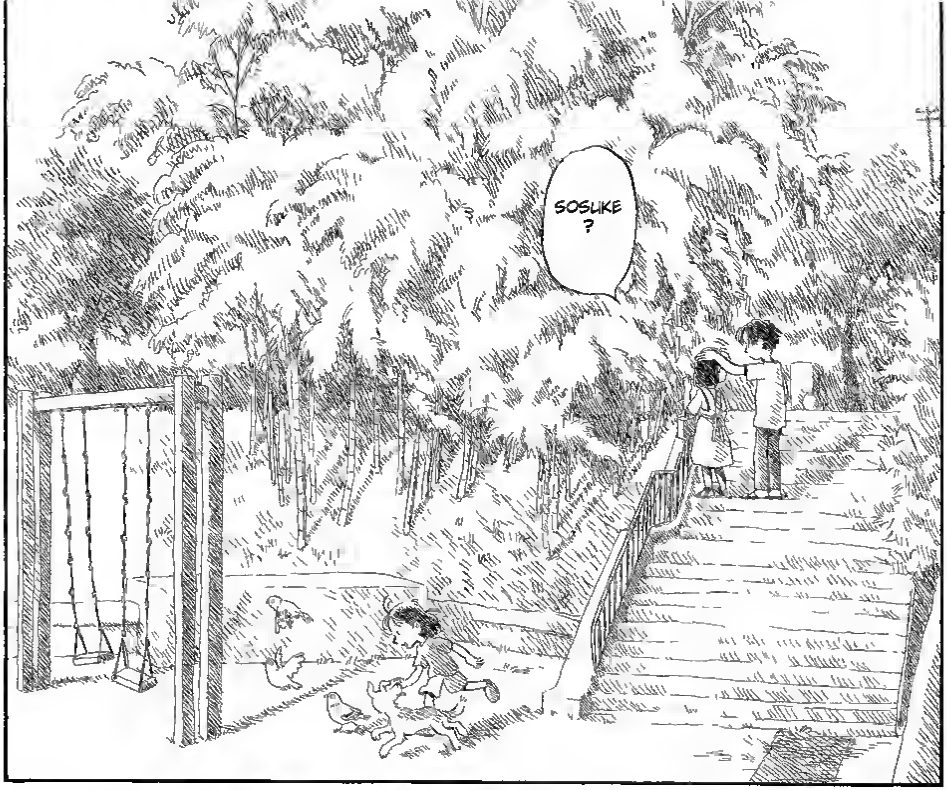

We Did It!

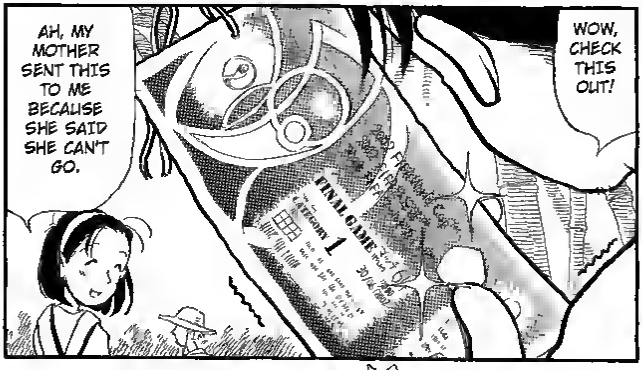
あたあたあた
あっはっはっ
ぺちん
AH!
…

PLEASE DON'T TOUCH ME BY ANY MEANS IN THE NEXT HALF YEAR.
...
バタン
WAS I THAT BAD?
...
MI-CHI ...
I'M BACK
BUT NOT SAYING ANYTHING ABOUT LAST NIGHT IS EVEN WORSE
AH, SO IT WAS FOR THAT
PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS OFF OK?
WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THERE IS NO BACTERIA INSIDE
WE WERE BOTH RATHER CARE-LESS ...

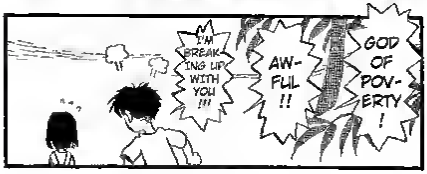

God of Poverty!
AH, THANK YOU.
WEL-COME BACK, TOO!
WEL-COME BACK!
AH! MICHI!
...
...
PLEASE GET US A STEEL DOOR
...
...
GIVE ME MONEY
SOSUKE
GIVE ME WOMEN
SOSUKE
COME ON, MICHI, WRITE SOMETHING, TOO!
NO, NO, I'LL DO IT!

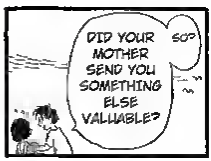

I HOPE MY WISH COMES TRUE!
SOMEHOW I FEEL SO POOR SUDDENLY ...
HEY, SOSUKE ...
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE MONEY PART...
IF YOUR WISH CAME TRUE ...
AND YOU REALLY MET SOMEONE SPECIAL.
THEN IT WOULDN'T BE ME ANYMORE WHO WOULD BE WELCOMING YOU BACK.
BUT THAT'S FINE WITH ME.
I WILL KNOW YOU ARE HAPPY AND I WON'T BE WORRIED ABOUT IT.
LIKE WHEN I WAS WITH TAKEBAYASHI.
MICHI .
IT'S PRETTY, SO LET ME HANG THIS, TOO.
RIGHT, RIGHT.

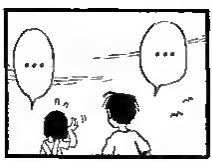

SOSLIKE ?

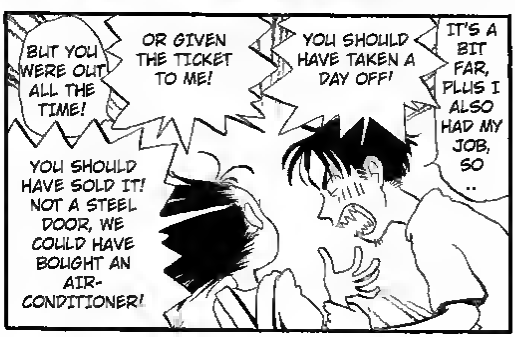

AH, MY MOTHER SENT THIS TO ME BECAUSE SHE SAID SHE CAN'T GO.
WOW, CHECK THIS OUT!
FINAL GAME
Category 1

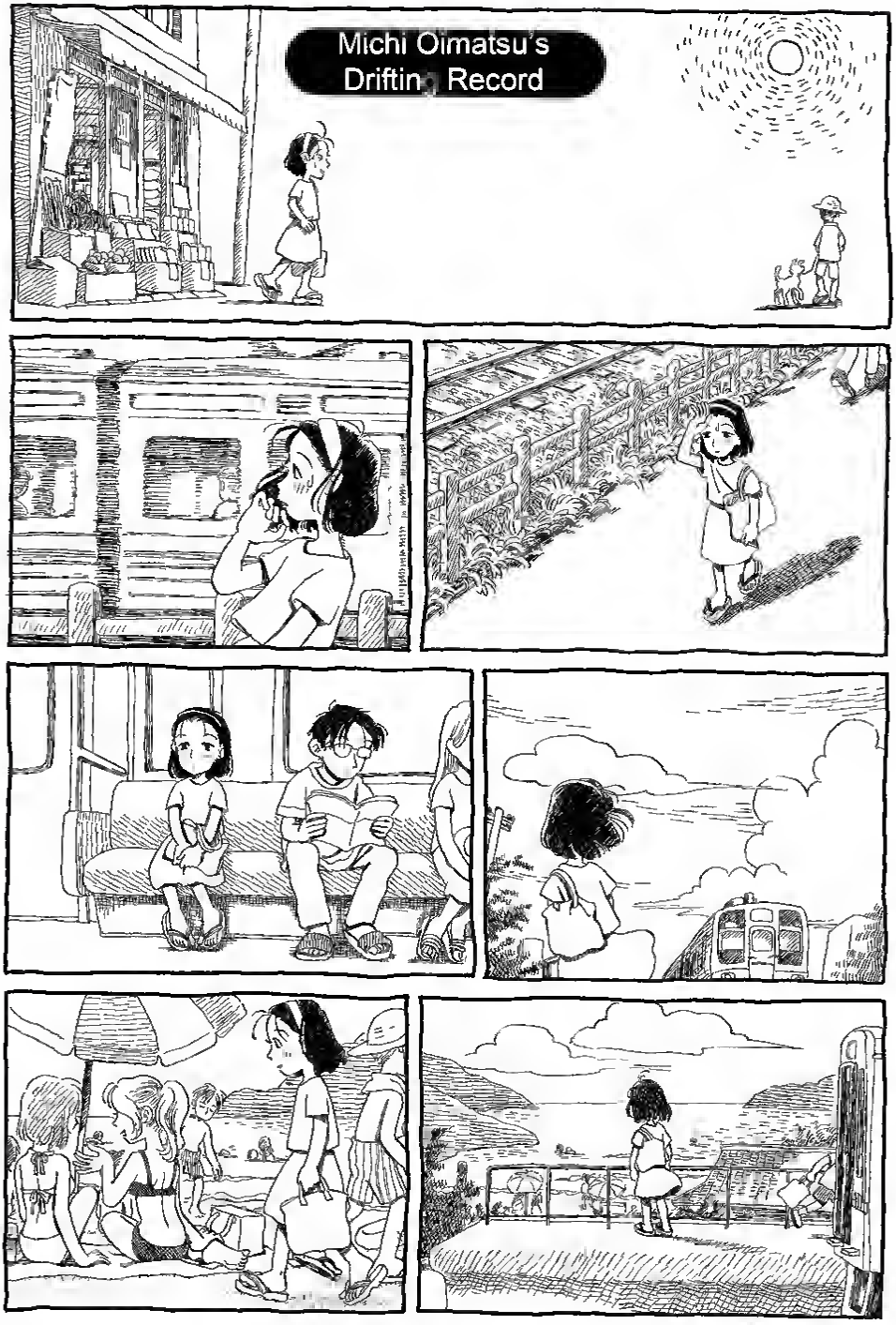
...

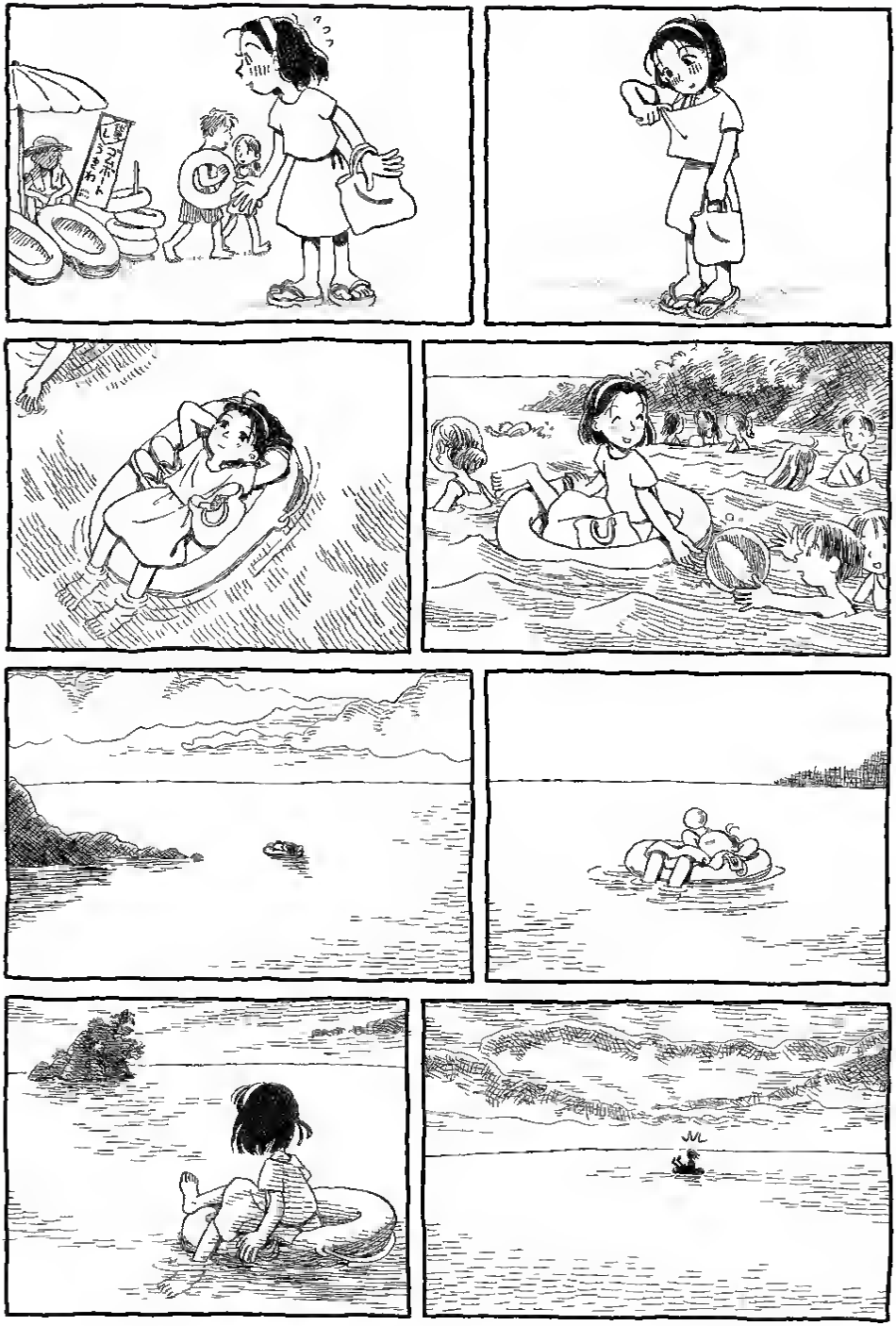

I'M BREAK-ING UP WITH YOU !!!
AW-FUL !!
GOD OF POV-ERTY !

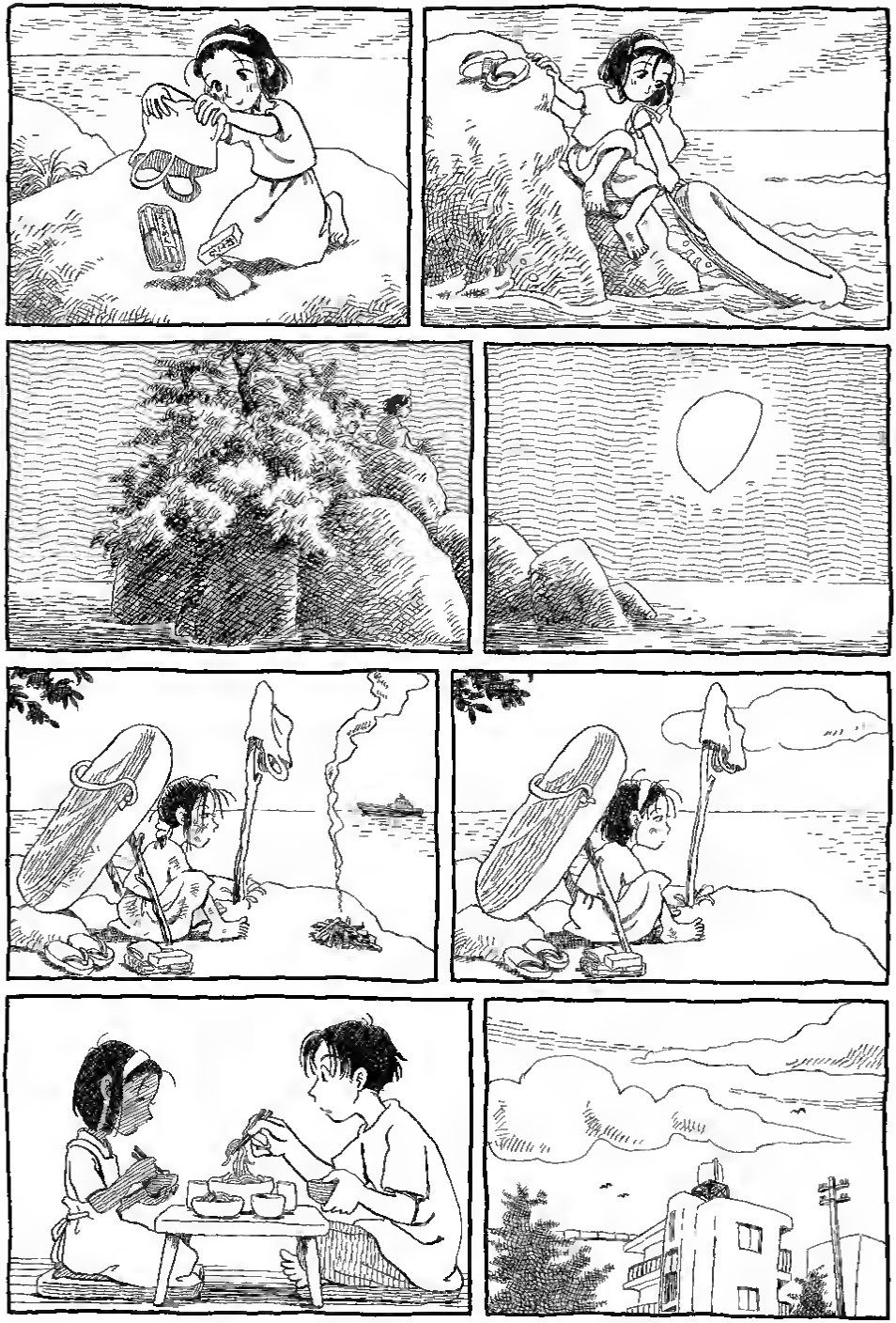

DID YOUR MOTHER SEND YOU SOMETHING ELSE VALUABLE?
SO?


...
...


BUT YOU WERE OUT ALL THE TIME!
OR GIVEN THE TICKET TO ME!
YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN A DAY OFF!
IT'S A BIT FAR, PLUS I ALSO HAD MY JOB, SO ..
YOU SHOULD HAVE SOLD IT! NOT A STEEL DOOR, WE COULD HAVE BOUGHT AN AIR-CONDITIONER!


Michi Oimatsu's
Driftin Record



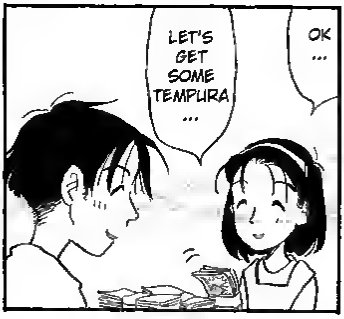


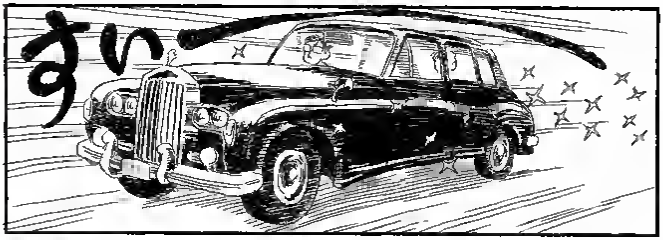
Swelling
WEL-COME BACK ...
...
AH, I WONDER HOW LONG BEFORE SOME BIG MONEY JUST COMES ROLLING MY WAY ...
...
...
THE LOT-TERY !!
I BOUGHT ONE TICKET JUST TO GET SOME CHANGE, BUT I ENDED UP WINNING
...
...
WOW, AMA-ZING!
HOW DO YOU GET THIS LUCKY
LET'S GO TO THE HORSE RACES, SHALL WE?
YOU ARE LUCKY, RIGHT?
HEY, MICHI ...

...
...

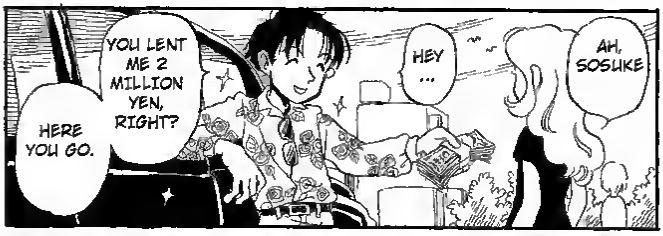
...
...

YOU WILL WASTE ALL OF IT IF YOU USE IT SO RECK-LESSLY!
ペチ
ペチ
YOU FOOL!


LET'S GET SOME TEMPURA ...
OK ...


ぶーん

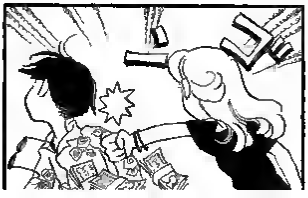
THEN LET ME SEND THE MONEY HOME IN PACKAGES OF 10 MILLION YEN EACH.
SURE, GO AHEAD
I'M GOING OUT.

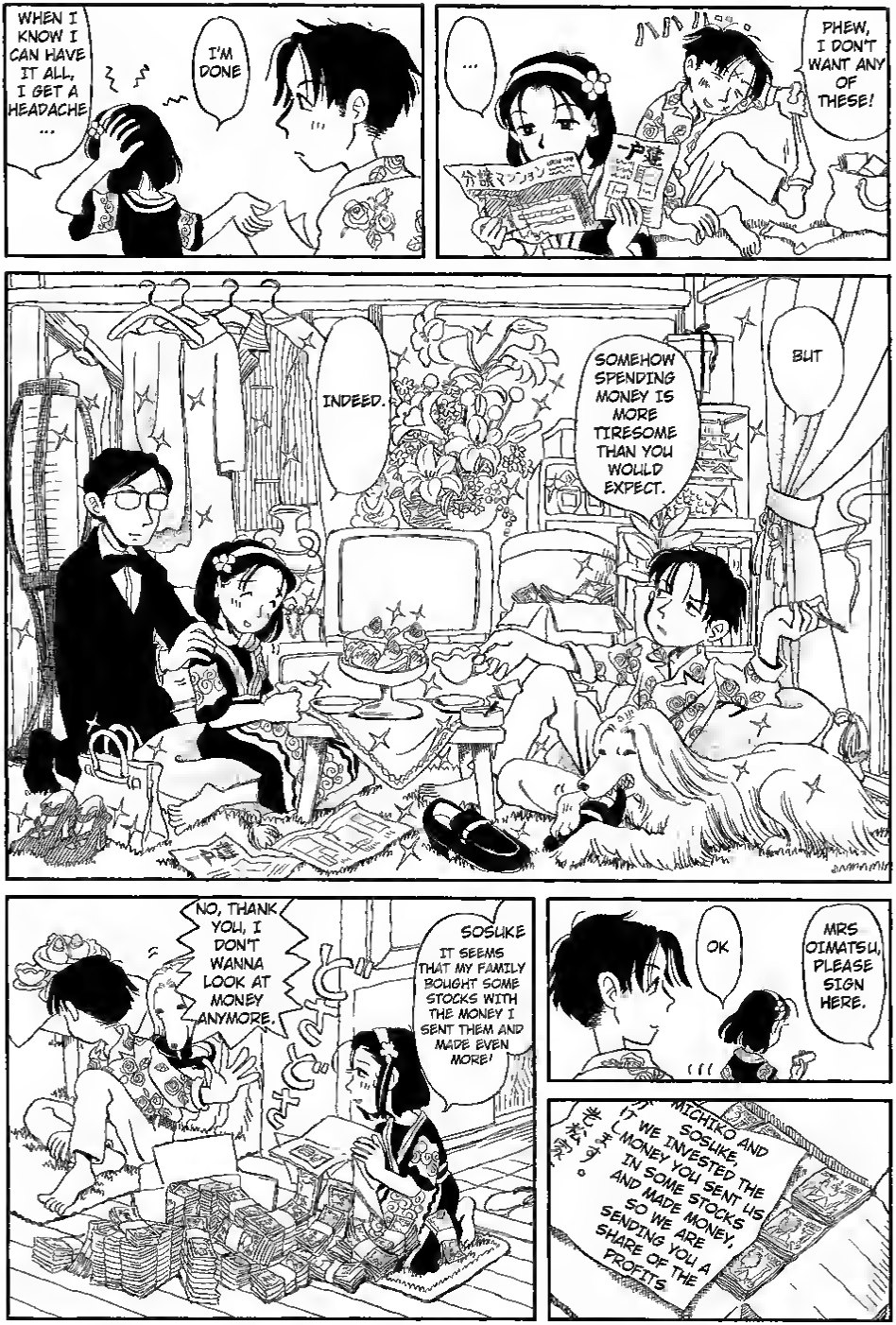

YOU LENT ME 2 MILLION YEN, RIGHT?
HERE YOU GO.
HEY ...
AH, SOSUKE

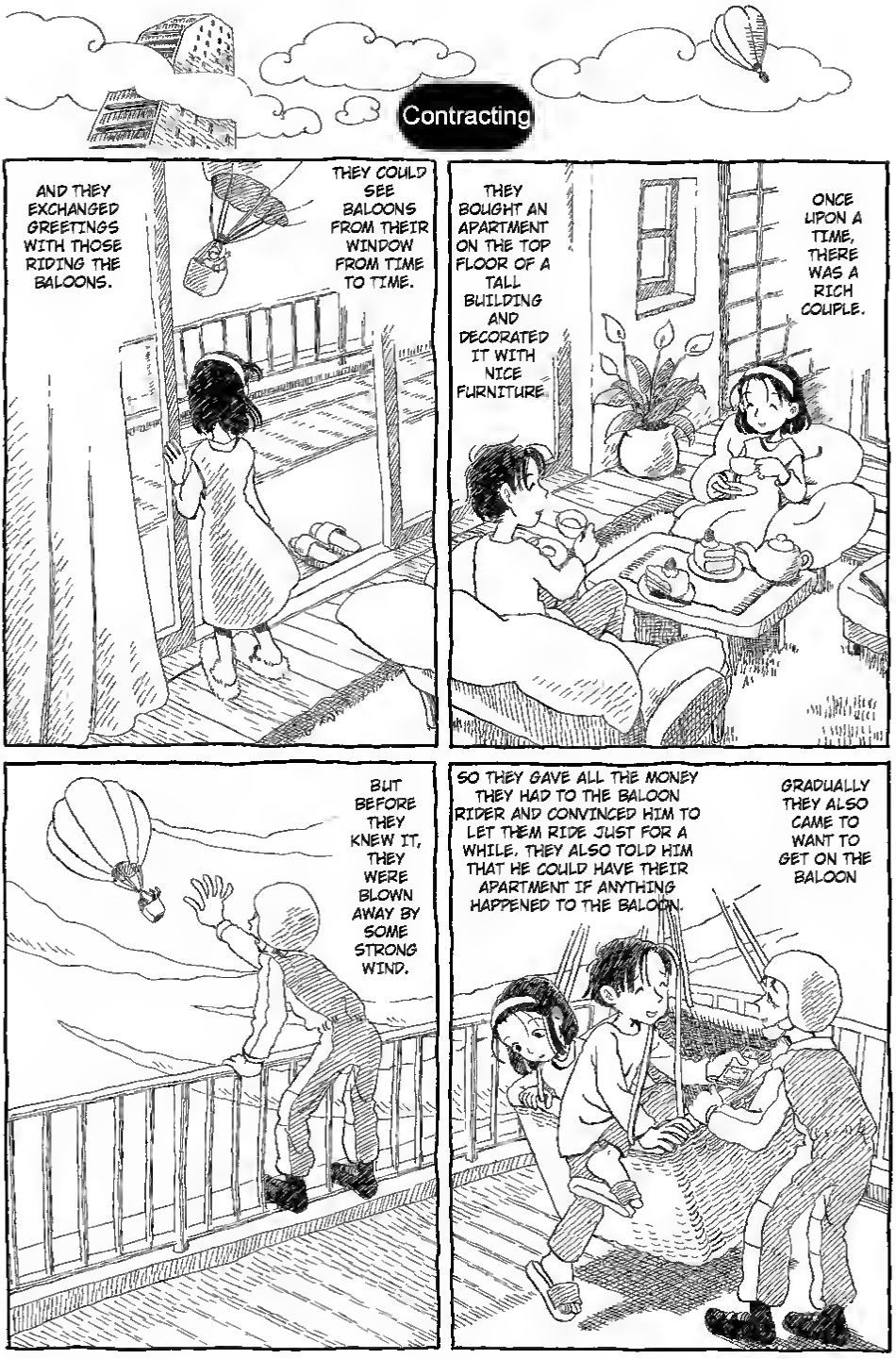
NOT ENOUGH?
HERE, HAVE ANOTHER MILLION.
WHAT?
...

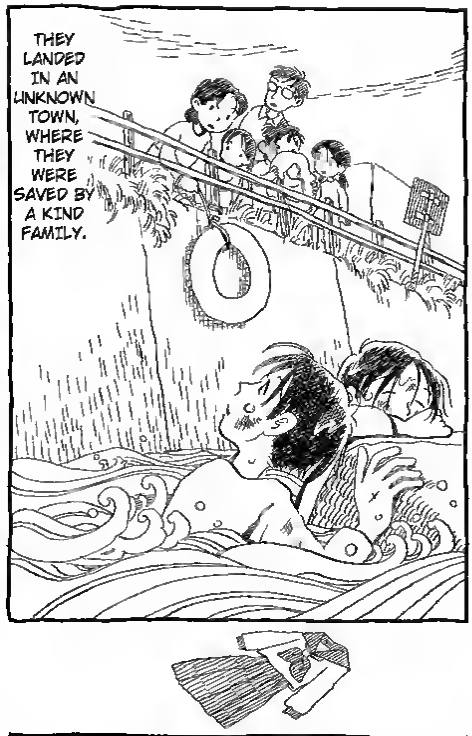
MU-RD-ER!?
FR-AUD!?
TH-EFT?
NO!
NO!

HOW DID YOU GET THIS MONEY?
ぴし



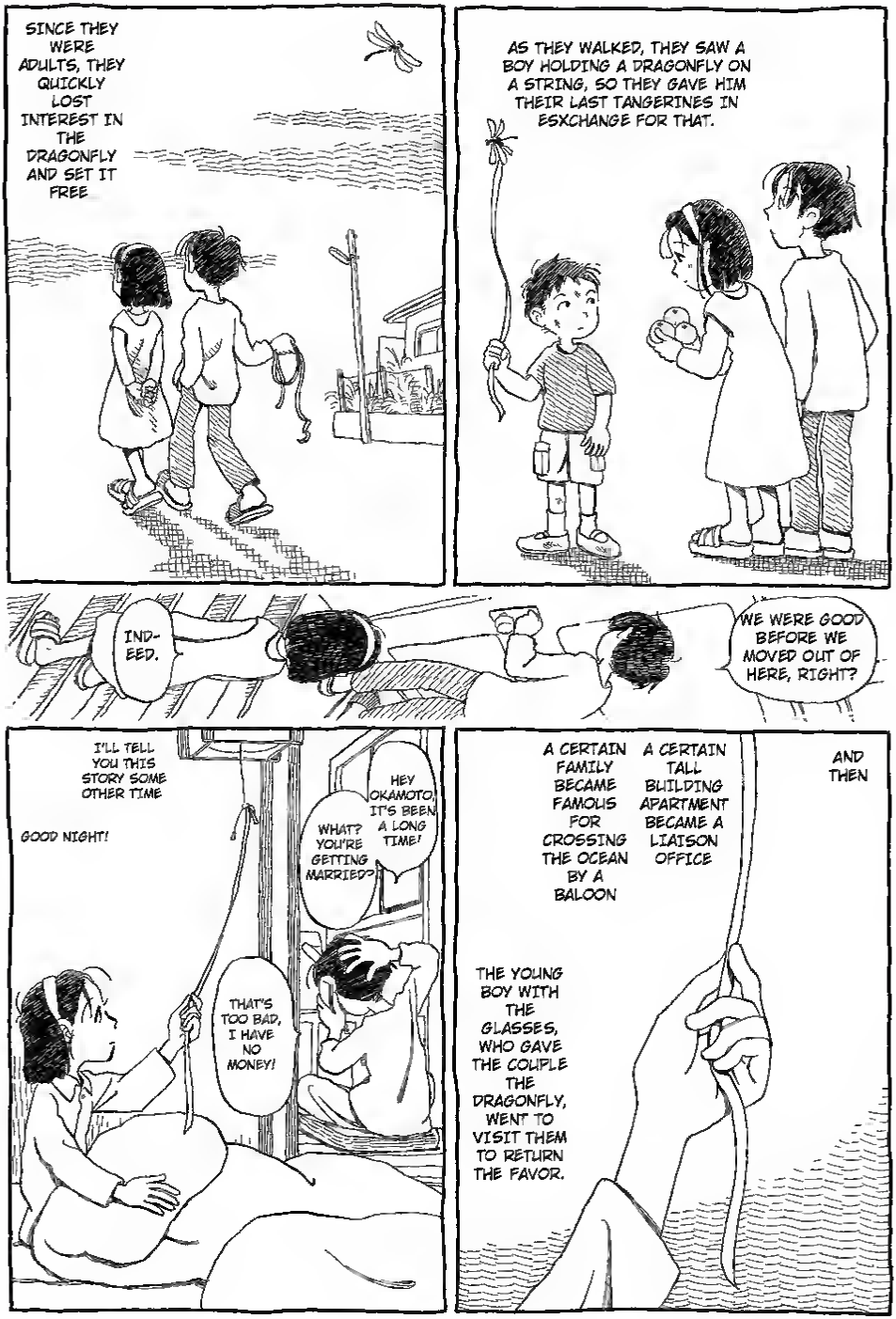

WHEN I KNOW I CAN HAVE IT ALL, I GET A HEADACHE ...
I'M DONE
...
PHEW, I DON'T WANT ANY OF THESE!
INDEED.
SOMEHOW SPENDING MONEY IS MORE TIRESOME THAN YOU WOULD EXPECT.
BUT
NO, THANK YOU, I DON'T WANNA LOOK AT MONEY ANYMORE.
SOSUKE
IT SEEMS THAT MY FAMILY BOUGHT SOME STOCKS WITH THE MONEY I SENT THEM AND MADE EVEN MORE!
OK
MRS OIMATSU, PLEASE SIGN HERE.
MICHIKO AND SOSUKE, IT WE INVESTED THE MONEY YOU SENT US IN SOME STOCKS AND MADE MONEY, SO WE ARE SENDING YOU A SHARE OF THE PROFITS

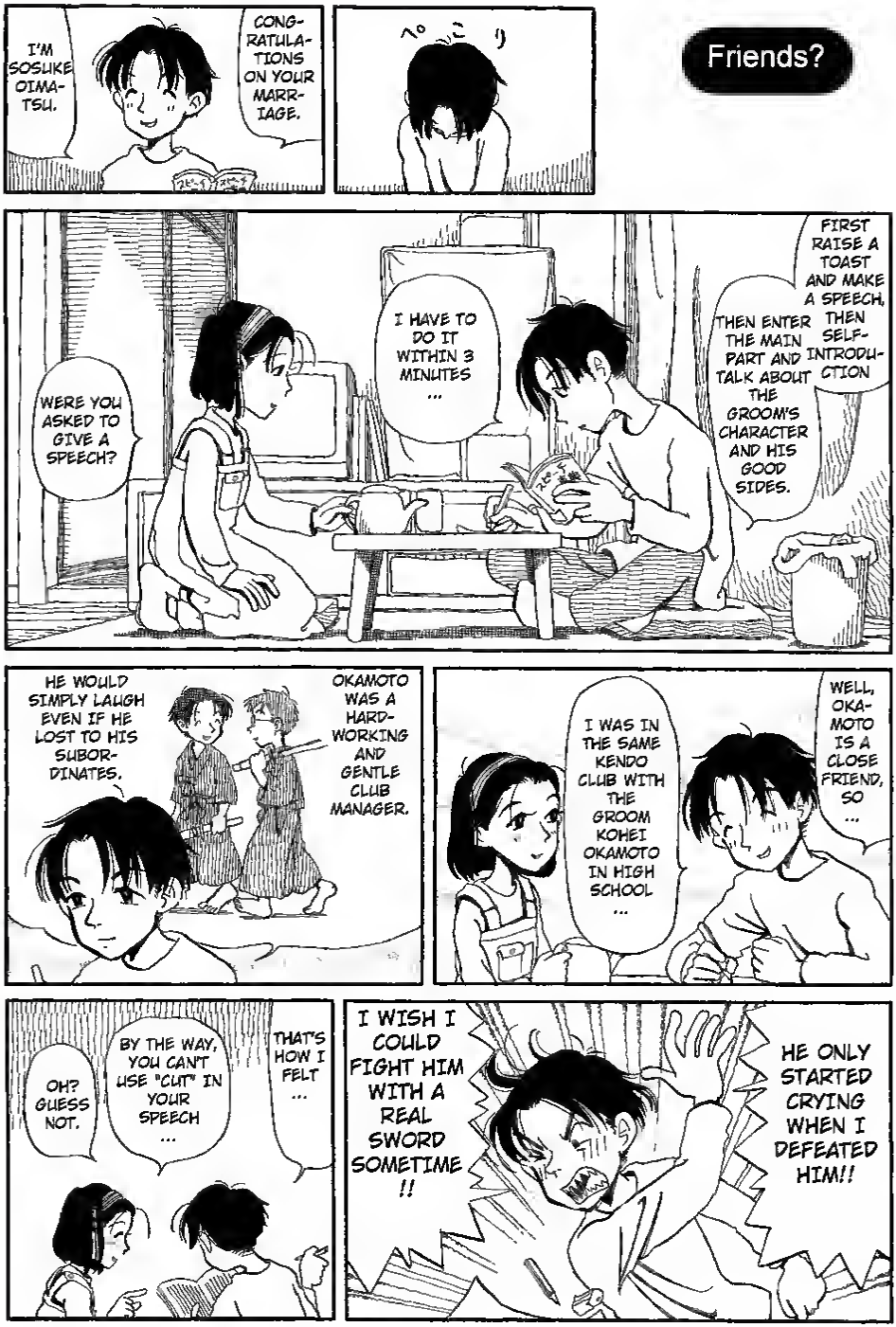

Contracting
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A RICH COUPLE.
THEY BOUGHT AN APARTMENT ON THE TOP FLOOR OF A TALL BUILDING AND DECORATED IT WITH NICE FURNITURE.
THEY COULD SEE BALOONS FROM THEIR WINDOW FROM TIME TO TIME.
AND THEY EXCHANGED GREETINGS WITH THOSE RIDING THE BALOONS.
GRADUALLY THEY ALSO CAME TO WANT TO GET ON THE BALOON
SO THEY GAVE ALL THE MONEY THEY HAD TO THE BALOON RIDER AND CONVINCED HIM TO LET THEM RIDE JUST FOR A WHILE. THEY ALSO TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD HAVE THEIR APARTMENT IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO THE BALOON.
BUT BEFORE THEY KNEW IT, THEY WERE BLOWN AWAY BY SOME STRONG WIND.

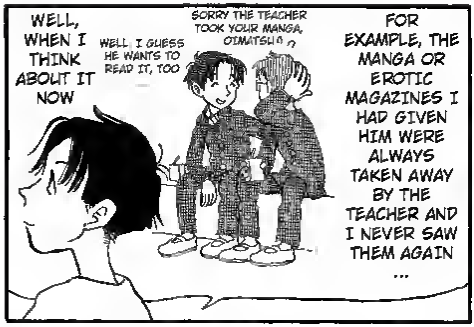

THEY LANDED IN AN UNKNOWN TOWN, WHERE THEY WERE SAVED BY A KIND FAMILY.

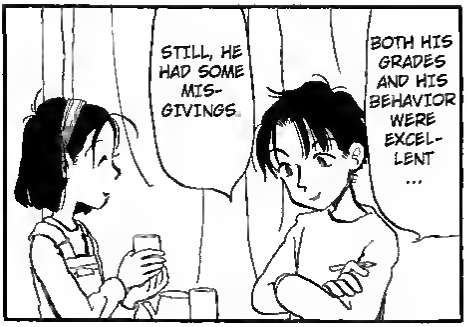
AS THEIR OLD CLOTHES GOT DRIED, THEY BECAME HUNGRY, SO THEY EXCHANGED THEM FOR SOME FRUITS AT THE LOCAL MARKET.
THEY DIDN'T THINK DEEPLY ABOUT WHY THOSE CLOTHES WERE SAILOR CLOTHES.

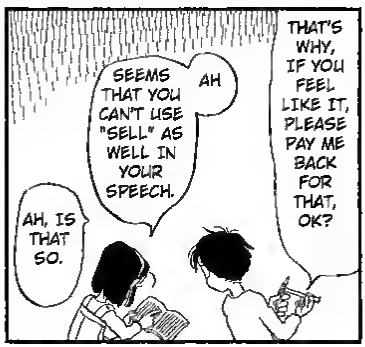
THEY GAVE THE BALOON REMNANTS TO THE FAMILY, WHO GAVE THEM THEIR MOST VALUABLE CLOTHES IN RETURN.
THEY HAD SEEN ENOUGH OF HIGH THINGS, SO THEY FELT NO ATTACHMENT TO THEIR APARTMENT OR THE BALOON

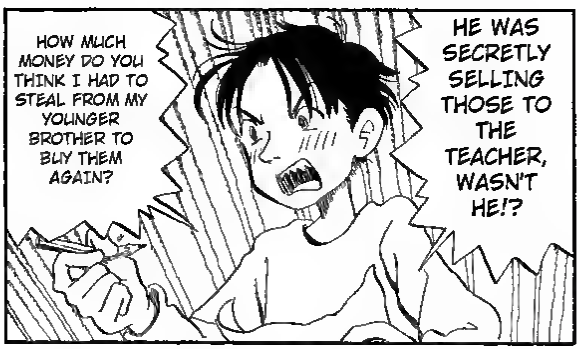

SINCE THEY WERE ADULTS, THEY QUICKLY LOST INTEREST IN THE DRAGONFLY AND SET IT FREE
AS THEY WALKED, THEY SAW A BOY HOLDING A DRAGONFLY ON A STRING, SO THEY GAVE HIM THEIR LAST TANGERINES IN ESXCHANGE FOR THAT.
INDEED.
WE WERE GOOD BEFORE WE MOVED OUT OF HERE, RIGHT?
I'LL TELL YOU THIS STORY SOME OTHER TIME
GOOD NIGHT!
HEY OKAMOTO, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME!
WHAT? YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED?
THAT'S TOO BAD, I HAVE NO MONEY!
A CERTAIN FAMILY BECAME FAMOUS FOR CROSSING THE OCEAN BY A BALOON
A CERTAIN TALL BUILDING APARTMENT BECAME A LIAISON OFFICE
AND THEN
THE YOUNG BOY WITH THE GLASSES, WHO GAVE THE COUPLE THE DRAGONFLY, WENT TO VISIT THEM TO RETURN THE FAVOR.

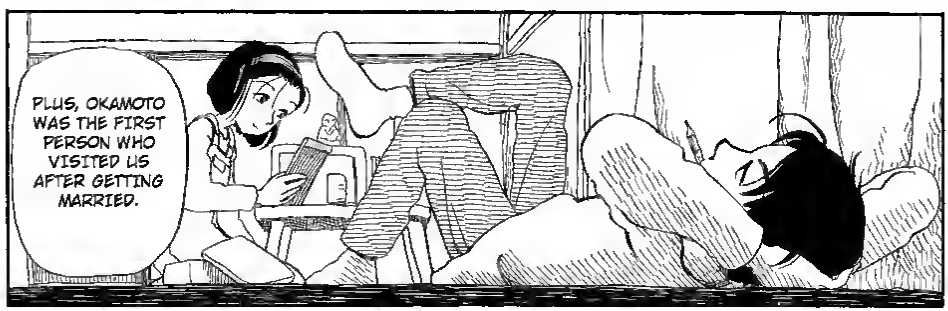

I'M SOSUKE OIMATSU.
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MARRIAGE.
へこり
Friends?
WERE YOU ASKED TO GIVE A SPEECH?
I HAVE TO DO IT WITHIN 3 MINUTES ...
FIRST RAISE A TOAST AND MAKE A SPEECH, THEN SELF-INTRODUCTION
THEN ENTER THE MAIN PART AND TALK ABOUT THE GROOM'S CHARACTER AND HIS GOOD SIDES.
HE WOULD SIMPLY LAUGH EVEN IF HE LOST TO HIS SUBORDINATES.
OKAMOTO WAS A HARD-WORKING AND GENTLE CLUB MANAGER.
I WAS IN THE SAME KENDO CLUB WITH THE GROOM KOHEI OKAMOTO IN HIGH SCHOOL ...
WELL, OKAMOTO IS A CLOSE FRIEND, SO ...
OH? GUESS NOT.
BY THE WAY, YOU CAN'T USE "CUT" IN YOUR SPEECH ...
THAT'S HOW I FELT ...
I WISH I COULD FIGHT HIM WITH A REAL SWORD SOMETIME !!
HE ONLY STARTED CRYING WHEN I DEFEATED HIM!!


WELL, WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT NOW
WELL, I GUESS HE WANTS TO READ IT, TOO
SORRY THE TEACHER TOOK YOUR MANGA, OTOMITSU-O
FOR EXAMPLE, THE MANGA OR EROTIC MAGAZINES I HAD GIVEN HIM WERE ALWAYS TAKEN AWAY BY THE TEACHER AND I NEVER SAW THEM AGAIN ...


STILL, HE HAD SOME MIS-GIVINGS
BOTH HIS GRADES AND HIS BEHAVIOR WERE EXCEL-LENT ...

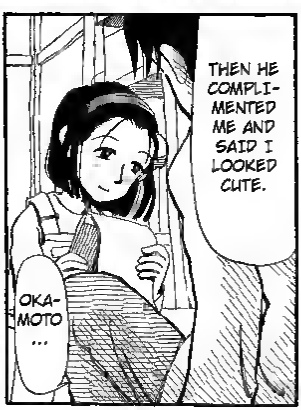

THAT'S WHY, IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT, PLEASE PAY ME BACK FOR THAT, OK?
AH
SEEMS THAT YOU CAN'T USE "SELL" AS WELL IN YOUR SPEECH.
AH, IS THAT SO.


HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU THINK I HAD TO STEAL FROM MY YOUNGER BROTHER TO BUY THEM AGAIN?
HE WAS SECRETLY SELLING THOSE TO THE TEACHER, WASN'T HE!?


PLUS, OKAMOTO WAS THE FIRST PERSON WHO VISITED US AFTER GETTING MARRIED.

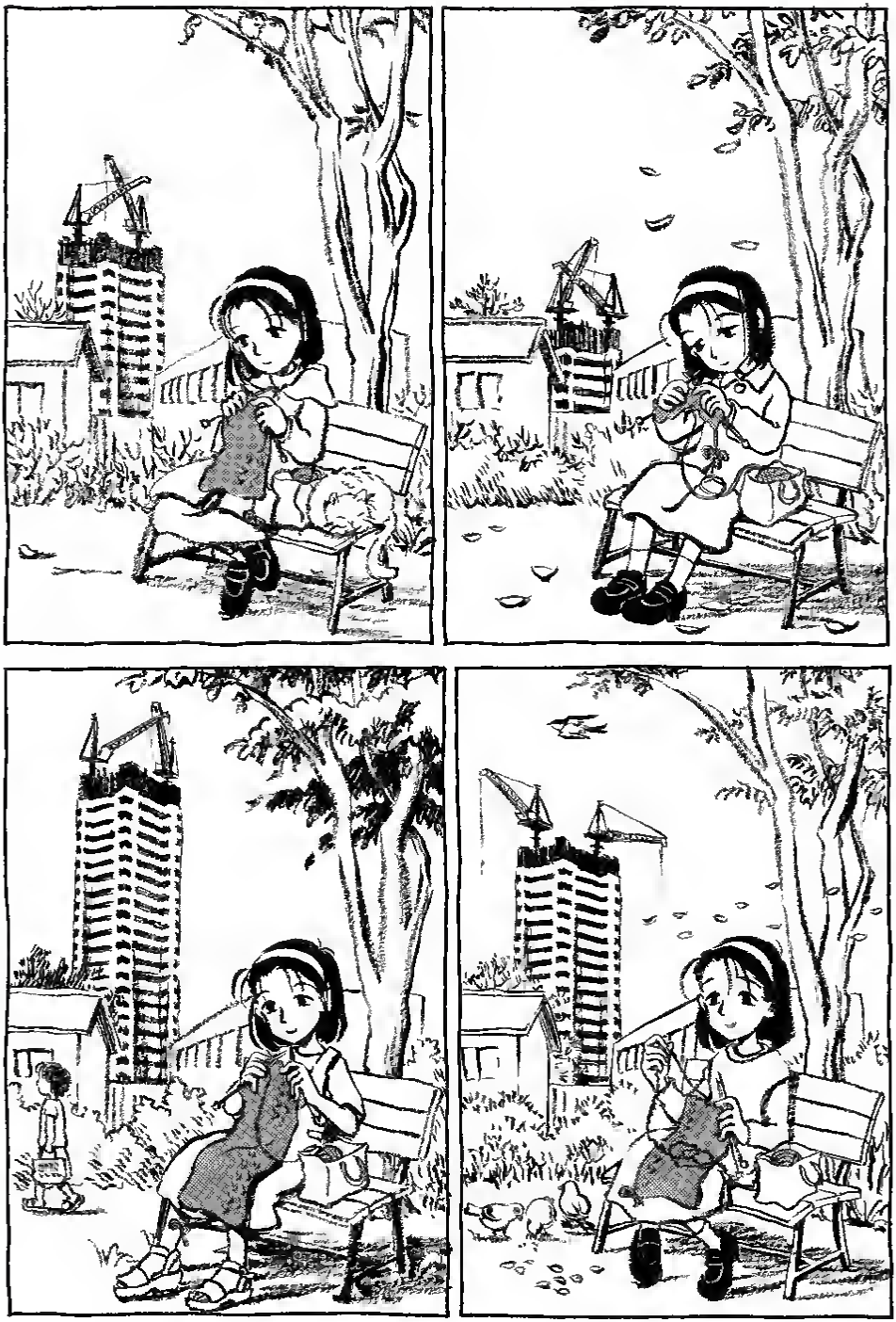
...

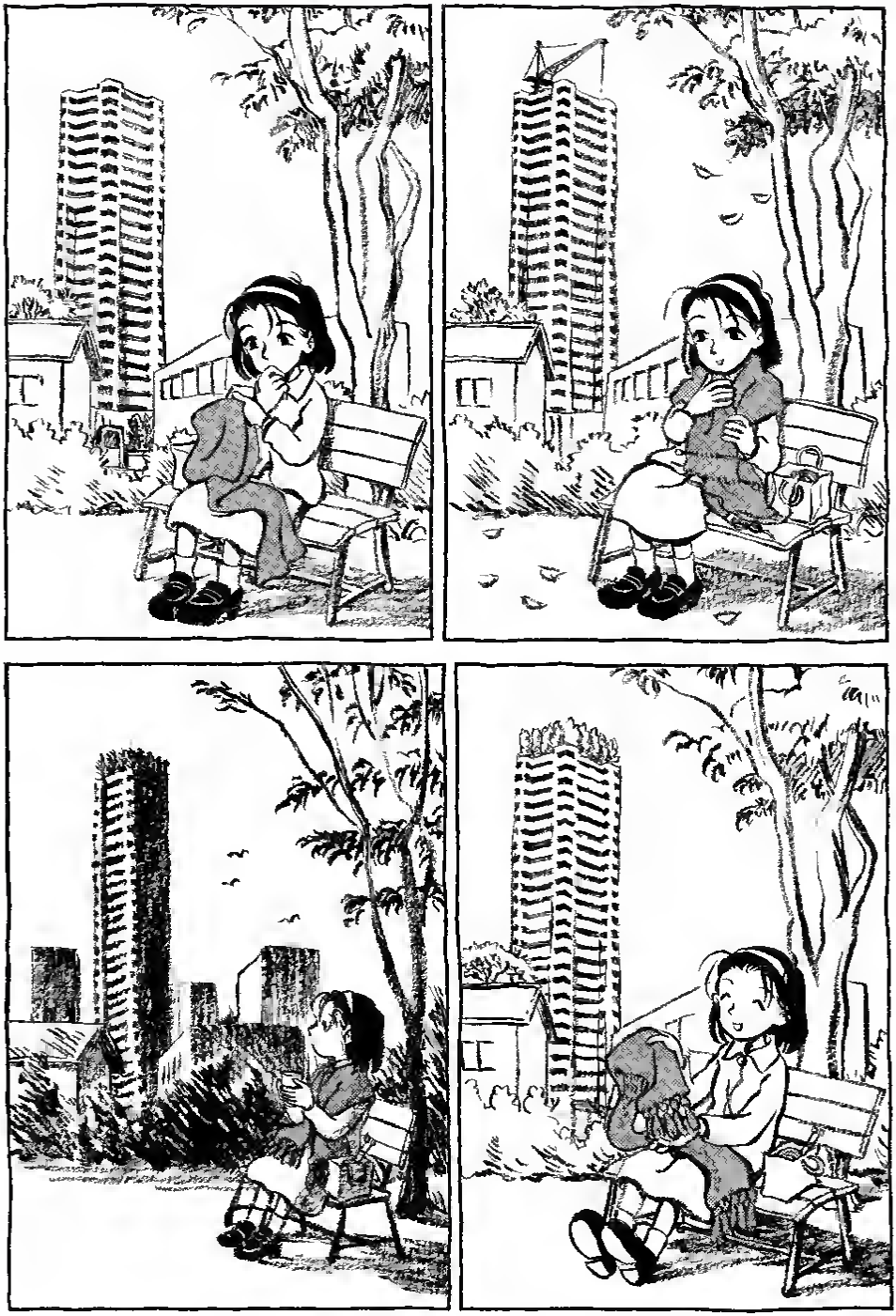
MY PARENTS MADE ME GET MARRIED TO HER AS IF IT WERE A JOKE!!
WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD DIFFERENT TASTE IN WOMEN!
THE PURPOSE OF THIS CEREMONY IS TO ATTRACT ONLY NEWLYWED FRIENDS, ISN'T IT?

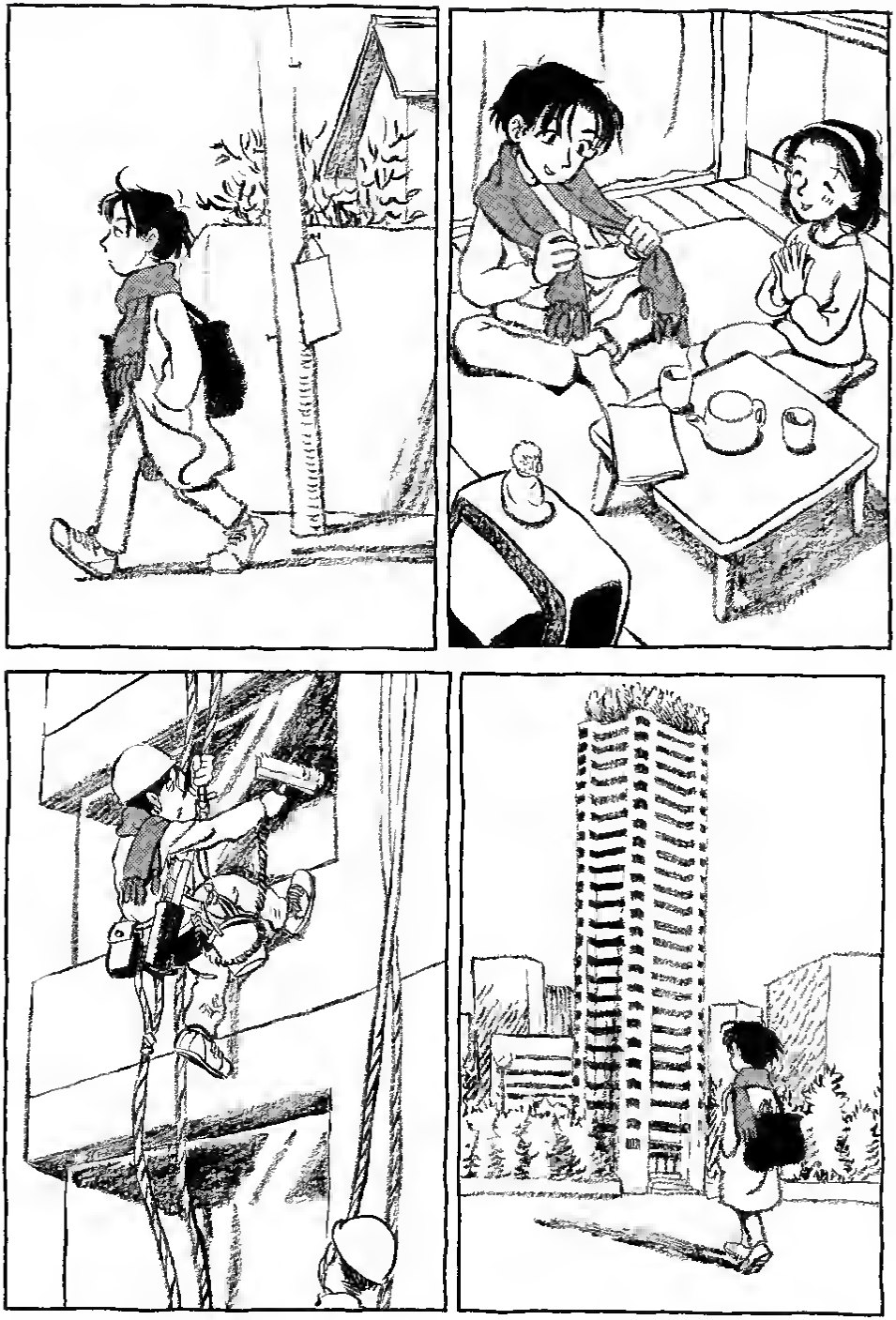

THEN HE COMPLI-MENTED ME AND SAID I LOOKED CUTE.
OKA-MOTO ...

WELL
IT'S OK, I GUESS.
SO PATHETIC
THIS IS NO GOOD ... I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING TO SAY.
HOW ABOUT WISHING THAT OKAMOTO LIVES HAPPILY FOREVER AND EVER
WHAT ARE YOU WRITING ?
ASKING MY FAMILY FOR A LOAN
WE HAVE A LOT OF EXPENSES, SO
IS THAT SO?
CAN YOU LEND US ABOUT 50,000 YEN?
UH ...
I BROUGHT SOME FLOWERS, TOO!
HERE, MICHI, LOOK WHAT I BROUGHT!
I'M BACK
SO-SO
DON'T GET DEPRESSED.
YEP
WE'LL TAKE BACK SOMETHING DELICIOUS FROM THE WEDDING RECEPTION.
YES
YES

Long Thread







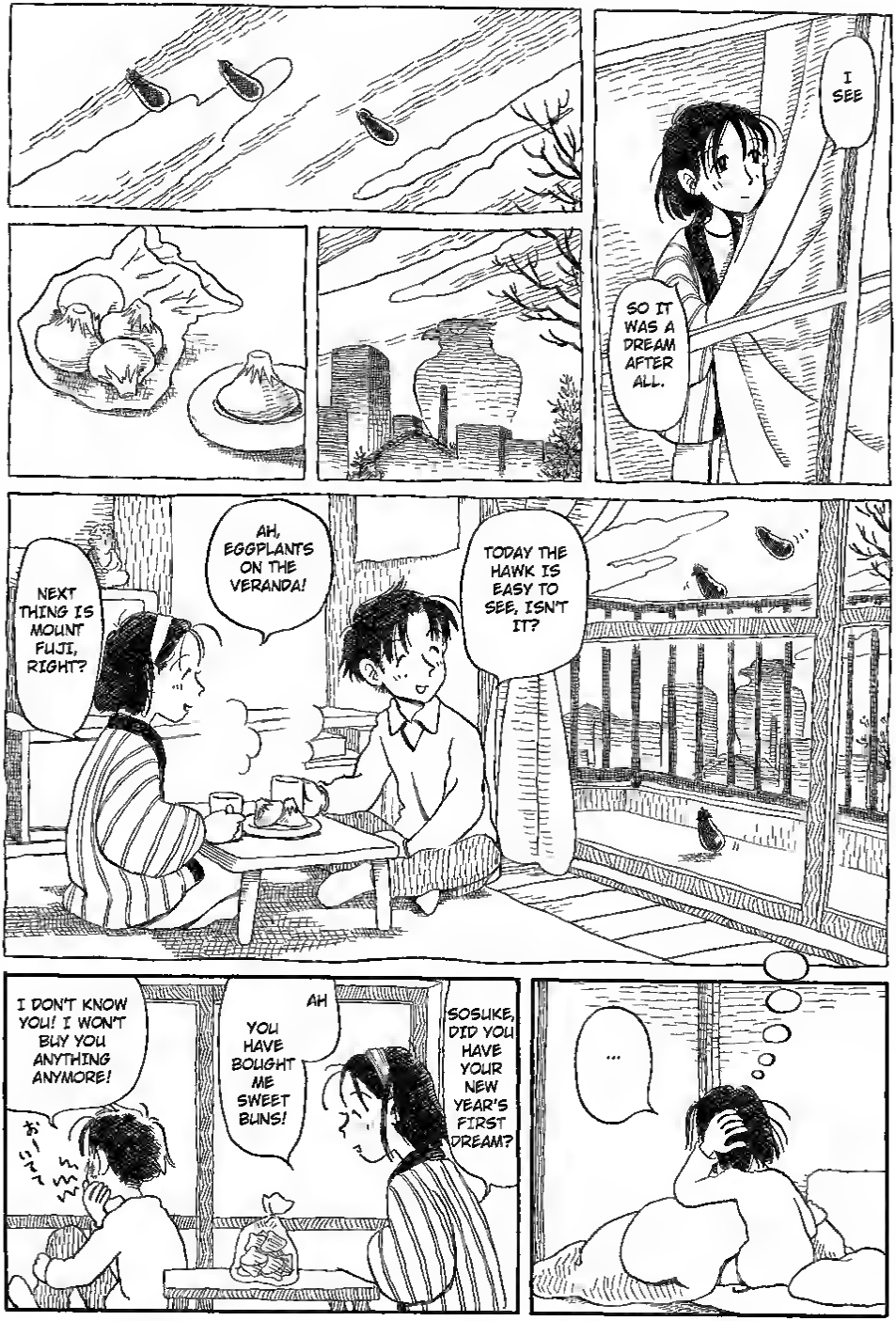
Above the Cover

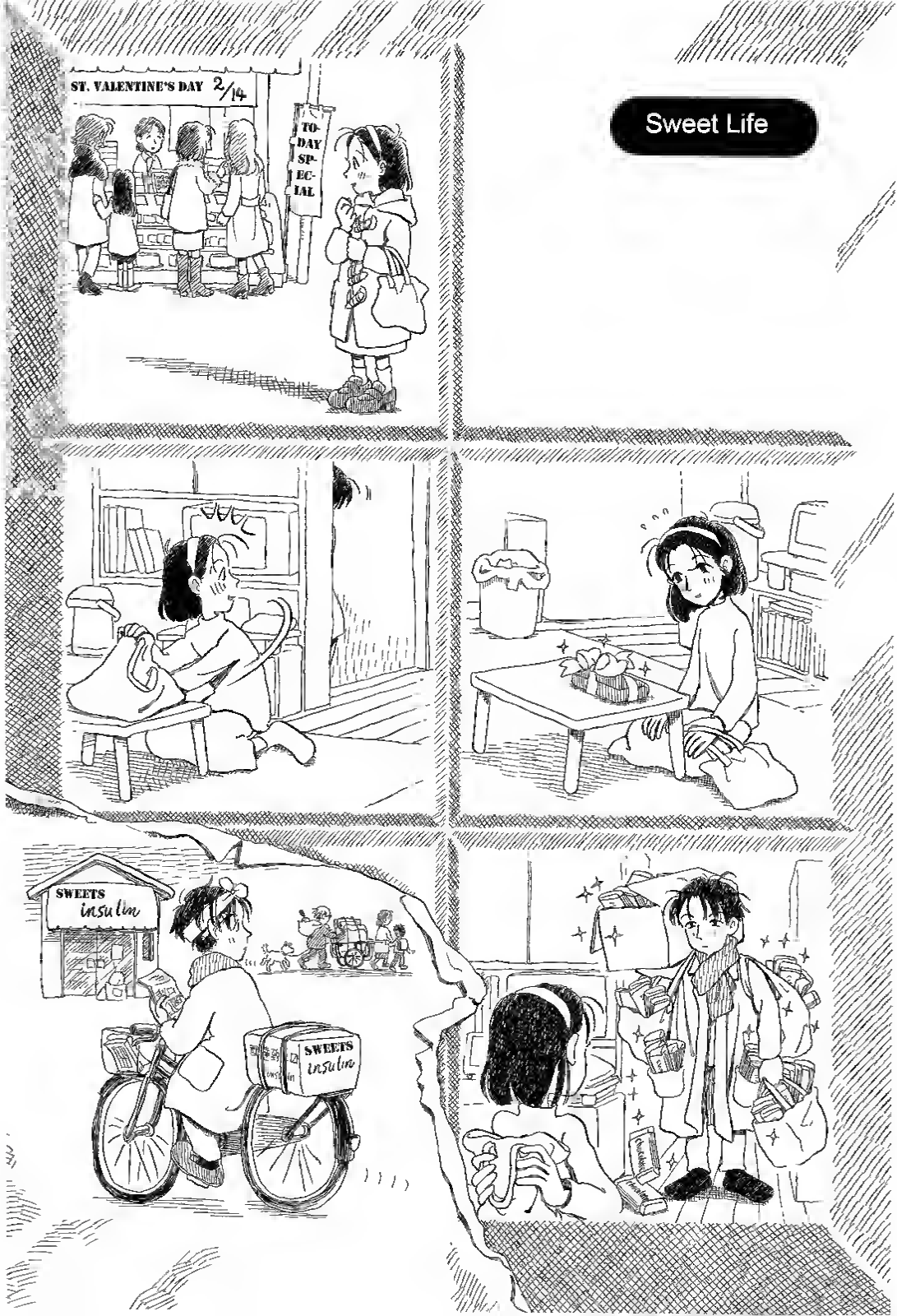
...
AH, YOUR HAND IS SO RED ...
AH, NO ...
WHAT? YOU DON'T HAVE GLOVES ?

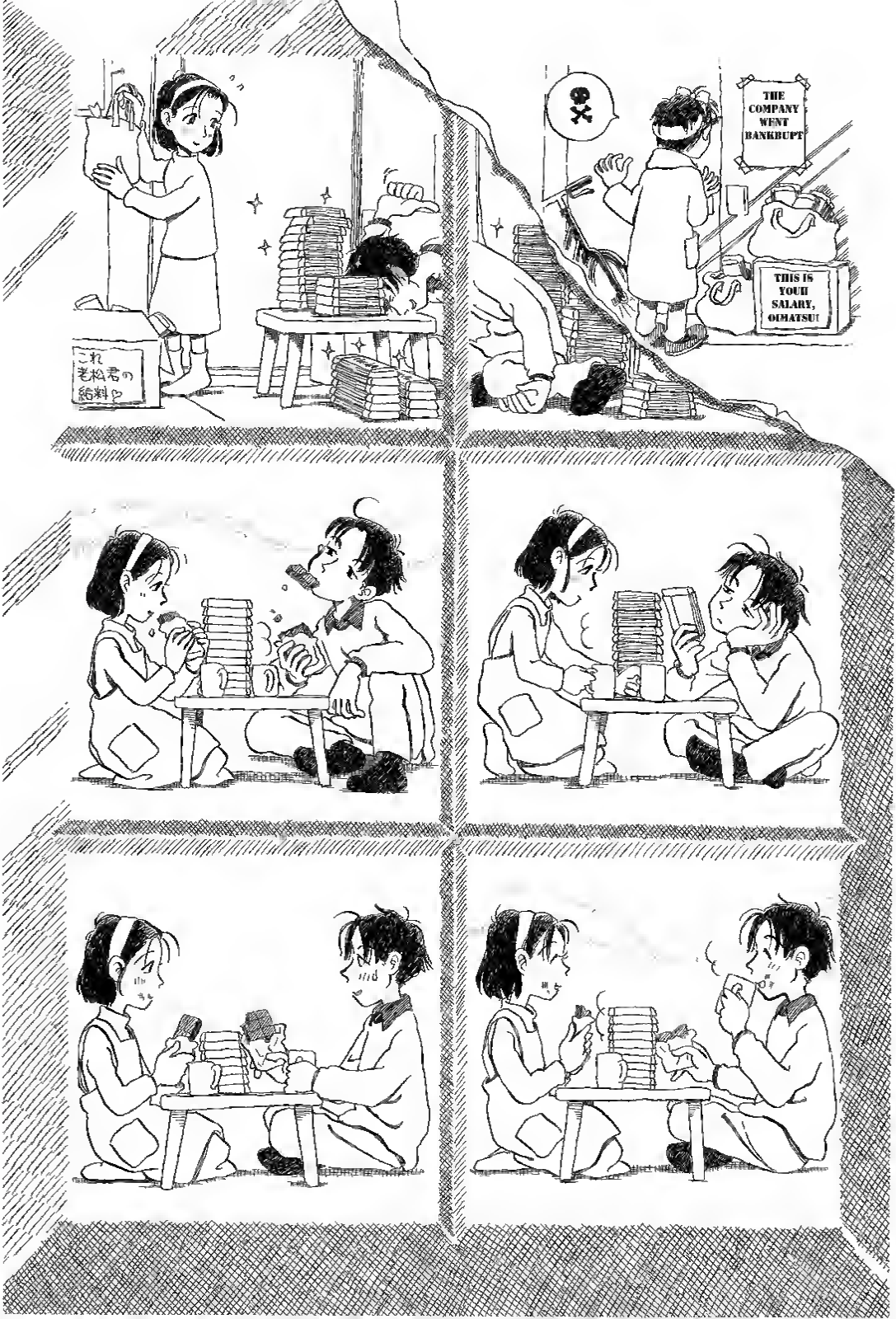
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WH-
...
LET'S GO BACK ALREADY.
I GOT BURNED BY HOLDING MY HAND TOO LONG IN THE HOT BATH.
SO YOU WERE COOL-ING IT OFF OUT-SIDE ...
AND IF I COVER IT WITH THIS
WHAT? ARE YOU CRAZY !?

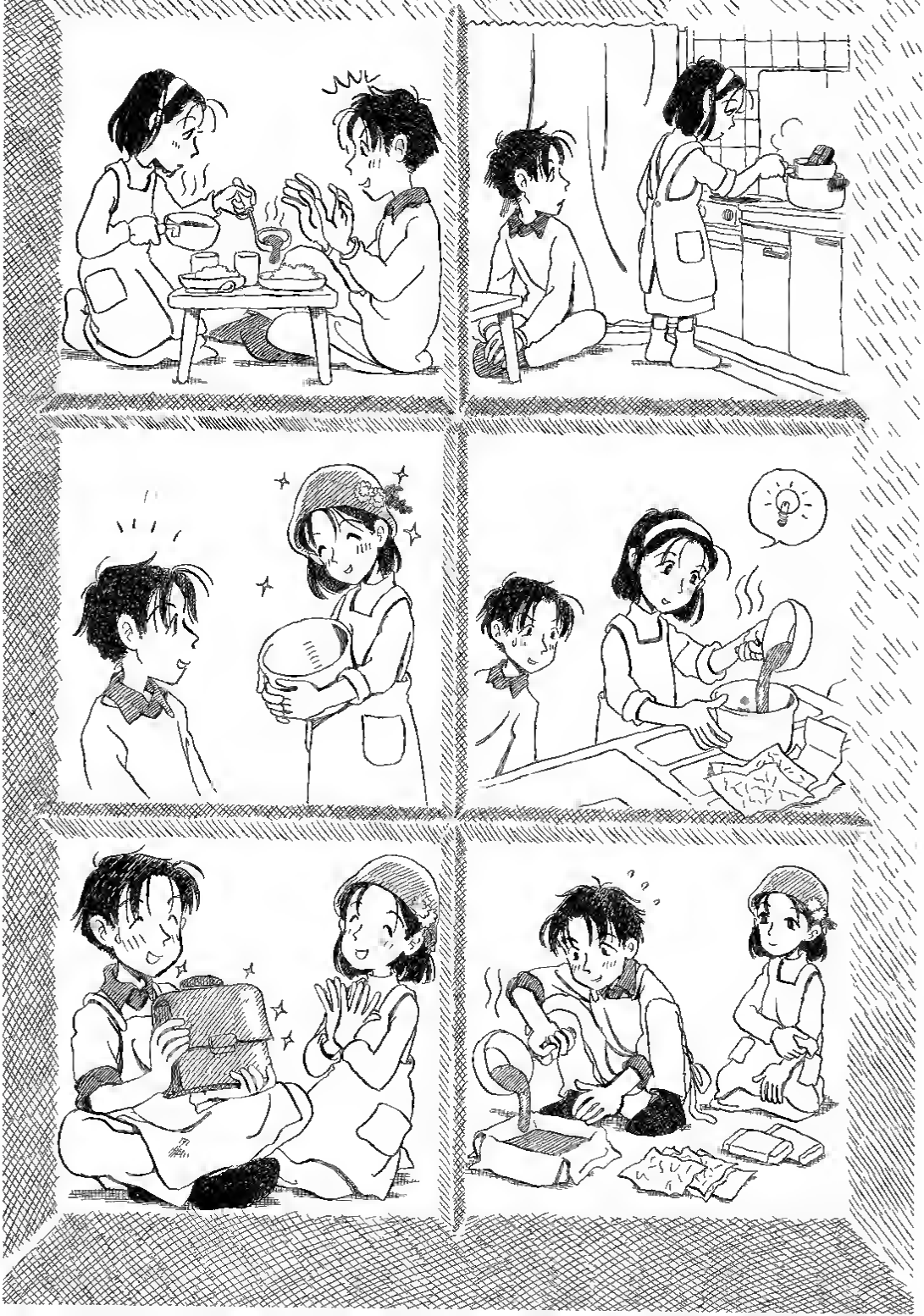
New Year's First Dream Reality
キャッ
ん
??
??
HAH !?
I'M GLAD YOU ARE SAFE!
WHAT'S WRONG? HAD A NIGHT-MARE?
MICHI ?

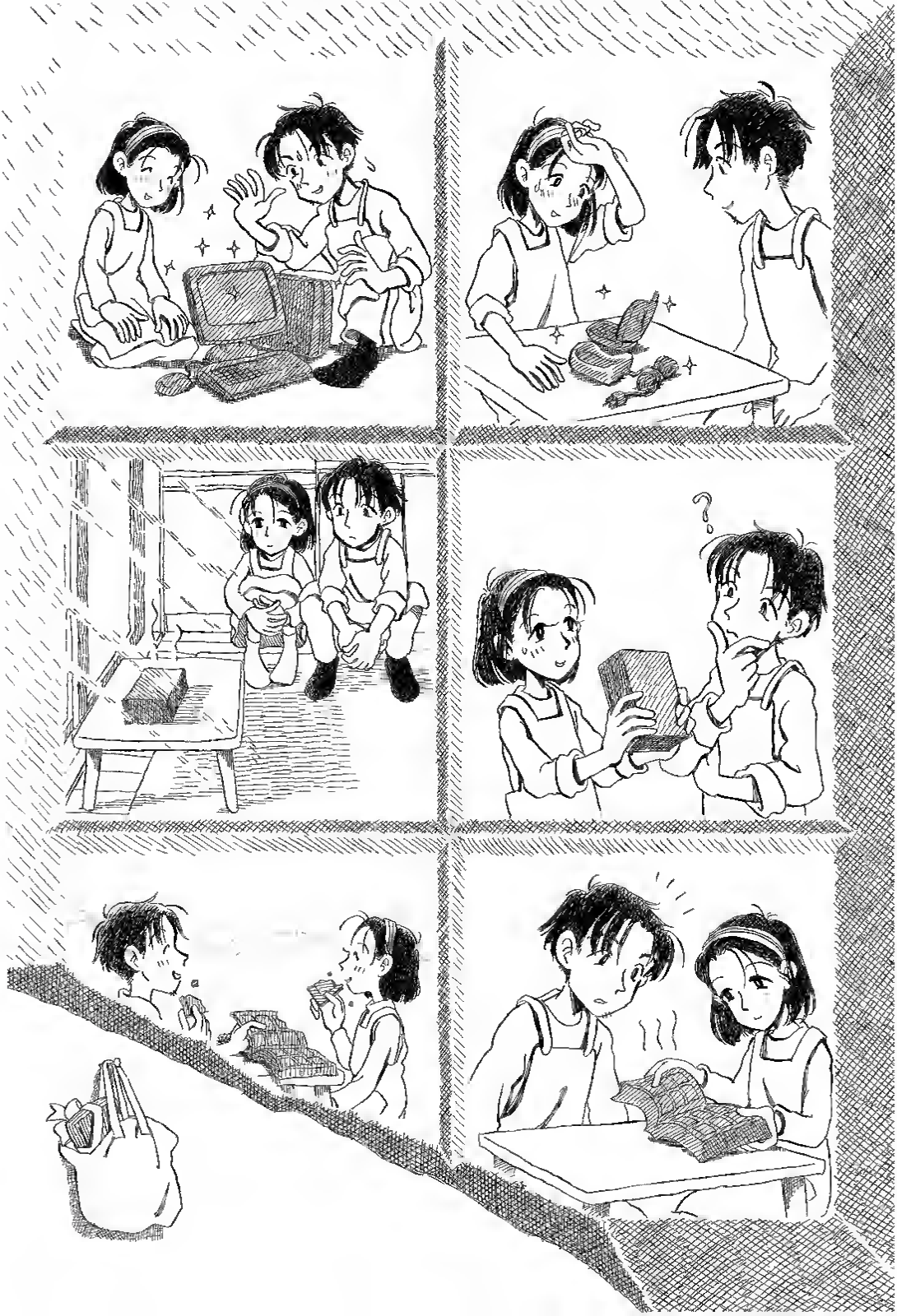
MICHI
..
IT WAS
OF COURSE, RIGHT?
AH, I WAS STILL HALF ASLEEP ...
AH, SOMEHOW I FEEL LIKE I AM STILL DREAMING ...
LOOK, I BOUGHT YOU YOUR FAVORITE SWEET BUNS FOR BREAKFAST!
WE WON'T NEED TO EAT ANYMORE OF THOSE CHEAP
ONLY GOOD STUFF!
I CAUSED YOU A LOT OF TROUBLE UNTIL NOW.
I GOT A JOB, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THIS SCARY HAWK!
あっはっはっ
はっはっはー


I SEE
SO IT WAS A DREAM AFTER ALL.
AH, EGGPLANTS ON THE VERANDA!
TODAY THE HAWK IS EASY TO SEE, ISN'T IT?
NEXT THING IS MOUNT FUJI, RIGHT?
SOSUKE, DID YOU HAVE YOUR NEW YEAR'S FIRST DREAM?
AH
YOU HAVE BOUGHT ME SWEET BUNS!
I DON'T KNOW YOU! I WON'T BUY YOU ANYTHING ANYMORE!
おーいっ
...


Sweet Life
ST. VALENTINE'S DAY 2/14
TO-DAY SP-EC-IAL
SWEETS insulin
SWEETS insulin

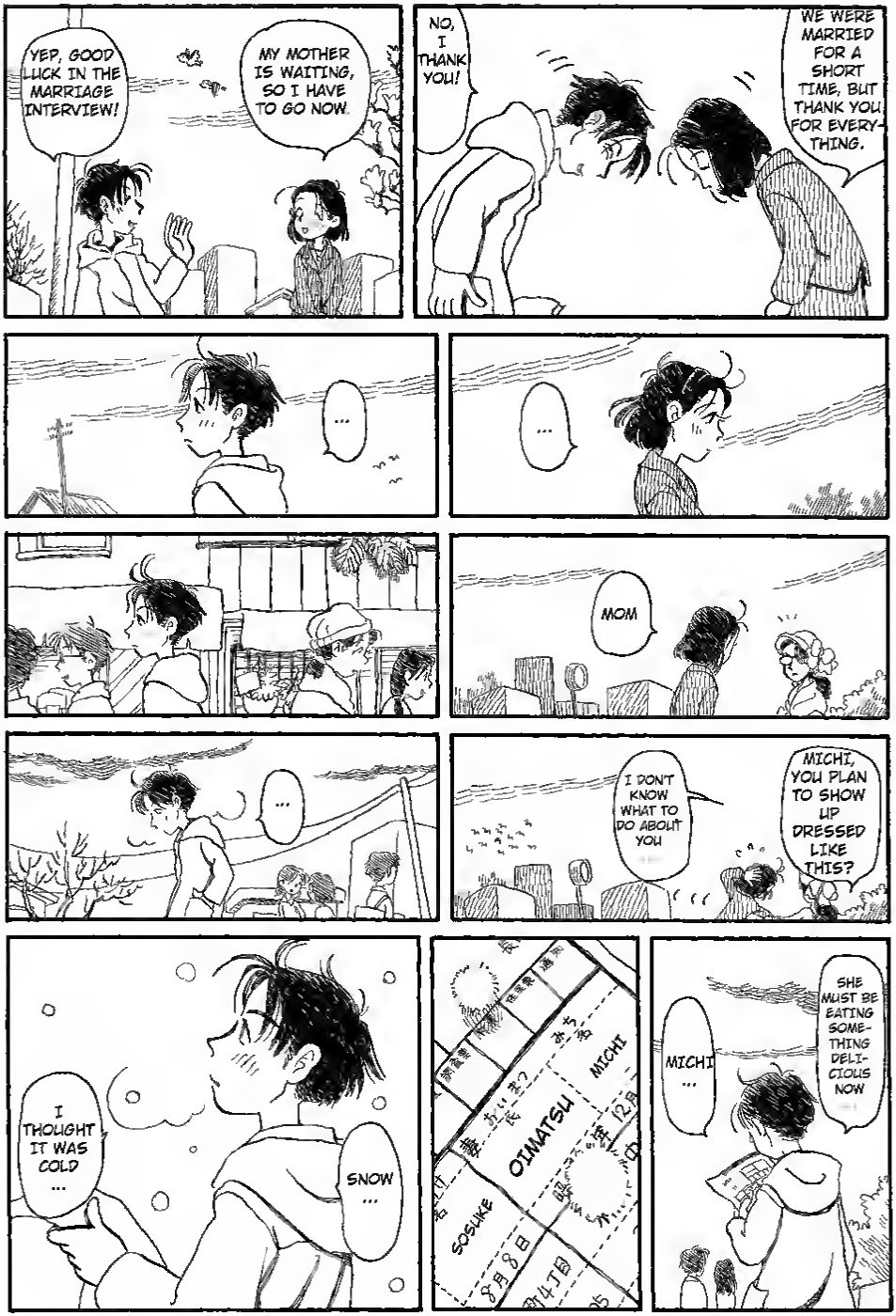

これ
老松君の
給料？
THE
COMPANY
WENT
BANKRUPT
THIS IS
YOUR
SALARY,
OMATSU!

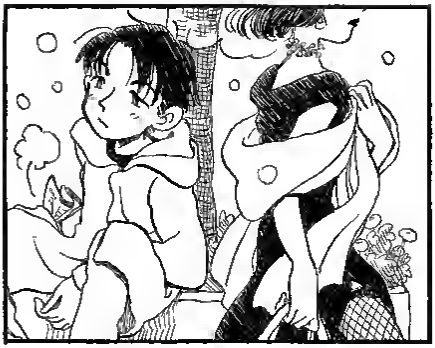


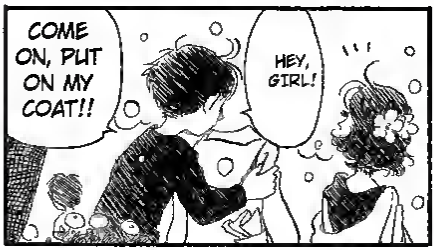


Light Snow
FIRST, MY DIVORCE REQUEST
HERE!
IT IS TOO THICK TO BE A REMINDER TO PAY BACK OUR LOANS.
WELL ...
DID THEY SEND ANY MONEY?
FROM YOUR FAMILY?
A LETTER ...
MICHIKO, A CERTAIN SON OF A NOBLE FAMILY WANTS TO MARRY YOU. IF YOU LIKE HIS PHOTOS, DIVORCE YOUR HUSBAND AND WE'LL ARRANGE FOR YOU TO SEE HIM.
YOUR MOTHER
AND PHOTOS OF A MARRIAGE CANDIDATE.
WHAT YOUR MOTHER IS SAYING IS QUITE RIGHT, TOO ...
WELL, MICHI ...
THIS PERSON IS QUITE ...
WHAT? WILL YOU DIVORCE ME JUST LIKE THAT !?

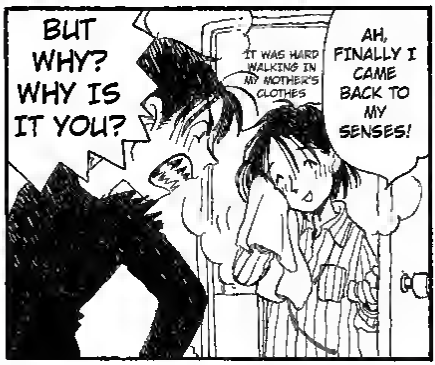
EVEN IF WE BREAK UP, I WILL ALWAYS BE WISHING FOR YOUR HAPPINESS !
SUCH A PLAIN INTRODUCTION WOULD REALLY BE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU!
YOU WENT TO PRIMARY SCHOOL TOGETHER ?
HUH?
LOOK, HE APPEARS TO BE A QUITE FINE YOUNG MAN.
DON'T MEN-TION IT ...
I'M SORRY I TOOK YOUR FROZEN TANGE-RINES ...
WELL, IF YOU SAY SO, SOSUKE ...
OK, I'LL GO SUBMIT THE DIVORCE PAPERS THEN.
PLEASE SOSUKE ...

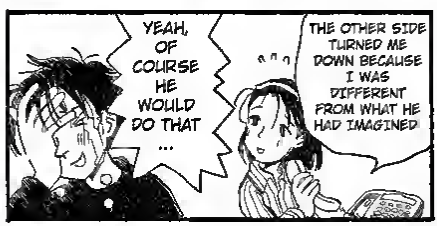

YEP, GOOD LUCK IN THE MARRIAGE INTERVIEW!
MY MOTHER IS WAITING, SO I HAVE TO GO NOW.
NO, I THANK YOU!
WE WERE MARRIED FOR A SHORT TIME, BUT THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.
...
...
...
MOM
...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT YOU
MICHI, YOU PLAN TO SHOW UP DRESSED LIKE THIS?
I THOUGHT IT WAS COLD ...
SNOW ...
MICHI
OIMATSU
SOSUKE
MICHI ...
SHE MUST BE EATING SOMETHING DELICIOUS NOW

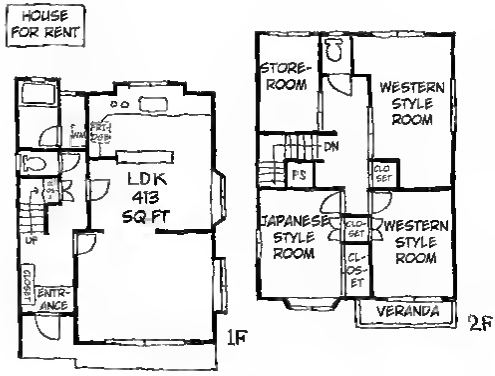



COME ON, PUT ON MY COAT!!
HEY, GIRL!

COME TO MY PLACE TO WARM YOURSELF UP!
IT'S OK, IT'S OK
WELL, BUT ...


BUT WHY? WHY IS IT YOU?
IT WAS HARD WALKING IN MY MOTHER'S CLOTHES
AH, FINALLY I CAME BACK TO MY SENSES!


YEAH, OF COURSE HE WOULD DO THAT ...
THE OTHER SIDE TURNED ME DOWN BECAUSE I WAS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HE HAD IMAGINED

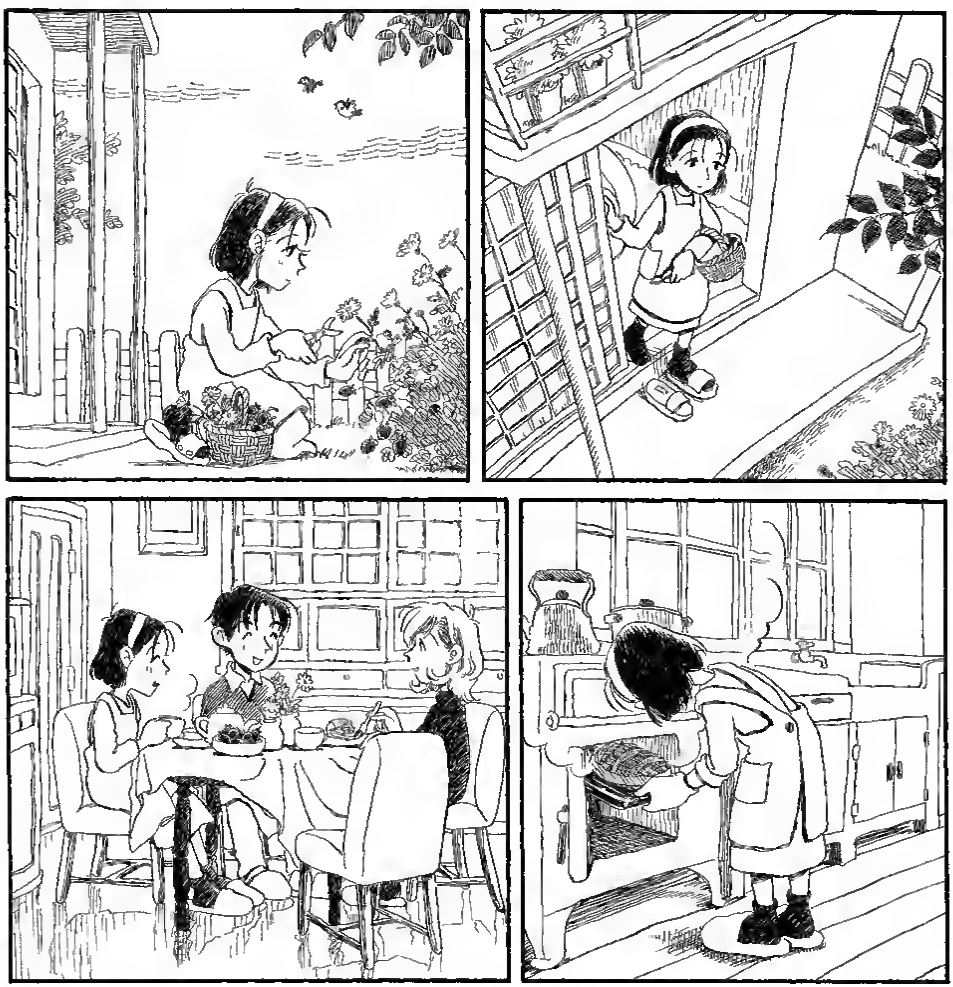


Home Is Where the Heart Is

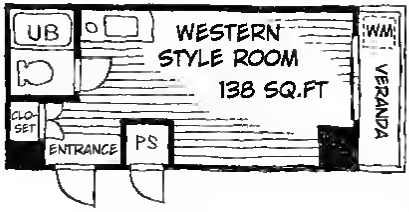
☆ INTERNAL REFORM COMPLETED IN MARCH 2003

☆ KITCHEN WITH AN OVEN

☆ HAS A GARDEN



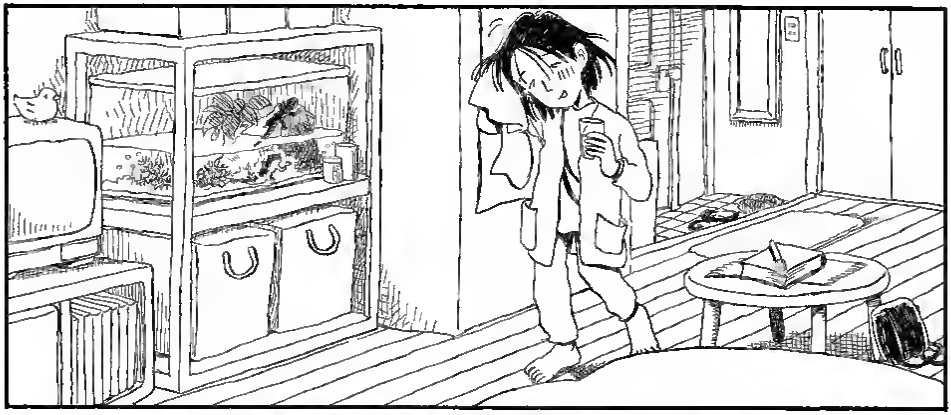
APARTMENT

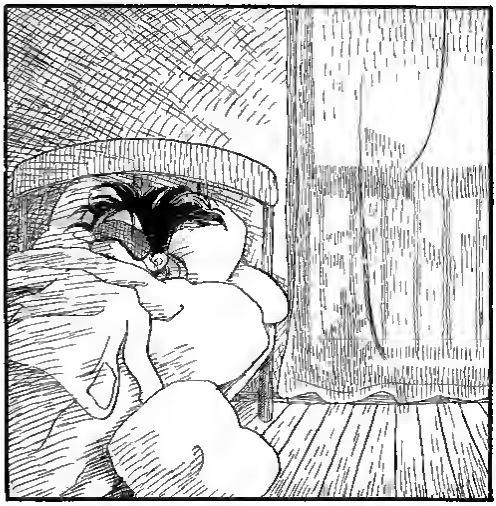


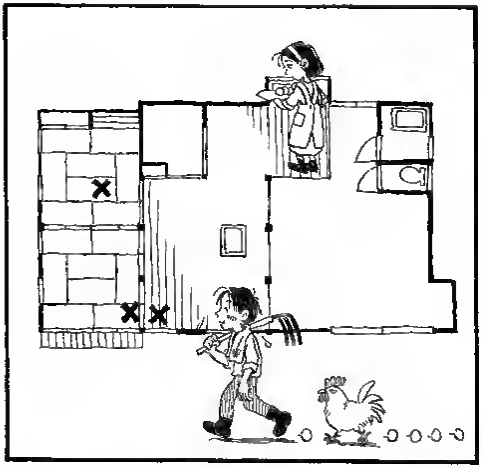
☆ ON THE 8TH FLOOR OF AN 11 FLOOR BUILDING

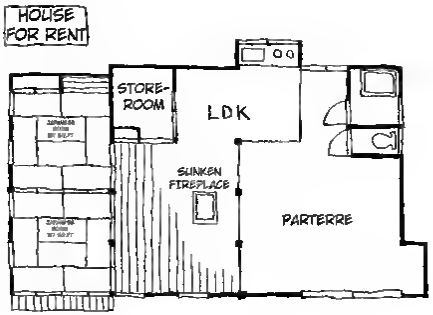
☆ 1 MIN WALK FROM THE STATION

☆ CONVENIENT FOR SHOPPING





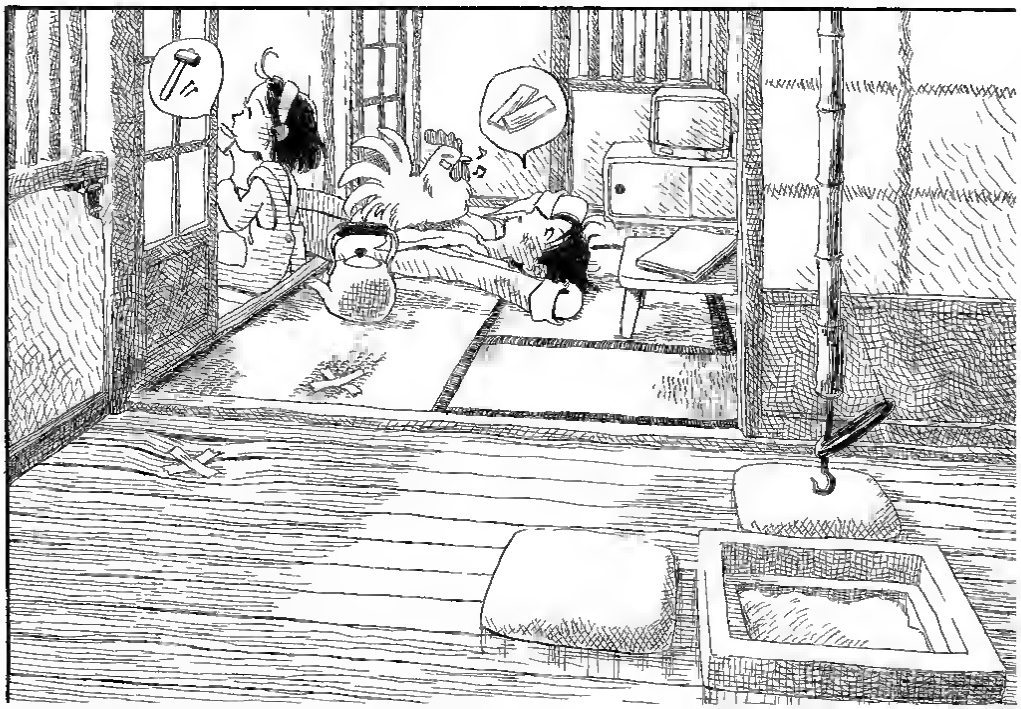


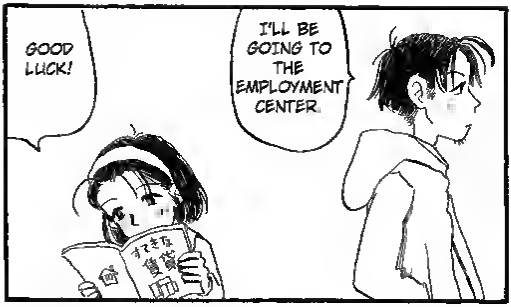


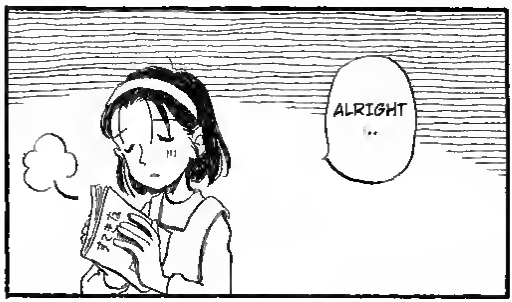
☆ BUILT 220 YEARS AGO

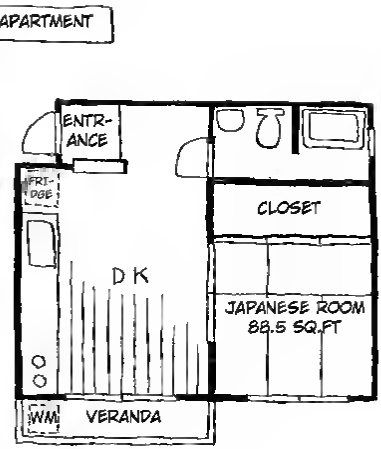
☆ BATH AND TOILET OUTSIDE

☆ PETS ALLOWED



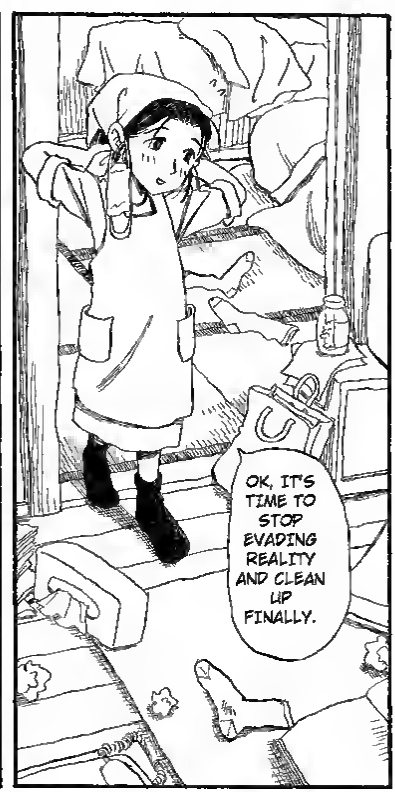


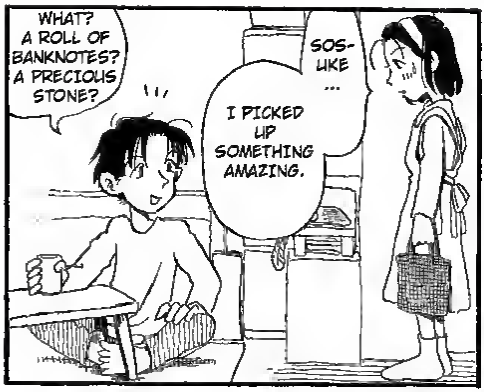




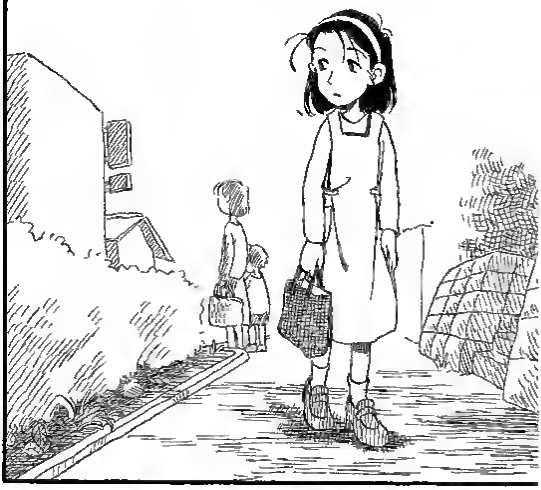
☆ GOOD SUN EXPOSURE

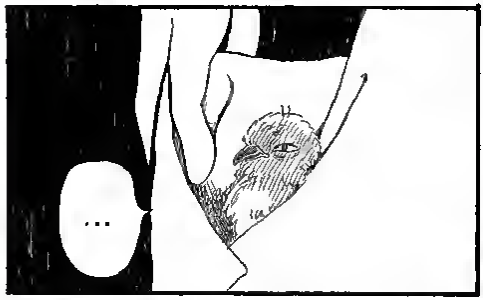
☆ TWO PEOPLE CAN LIVE TOGETHER

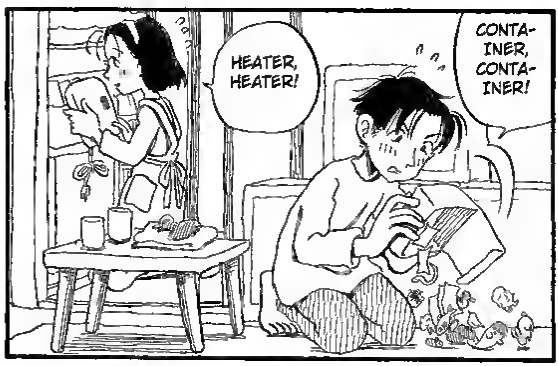


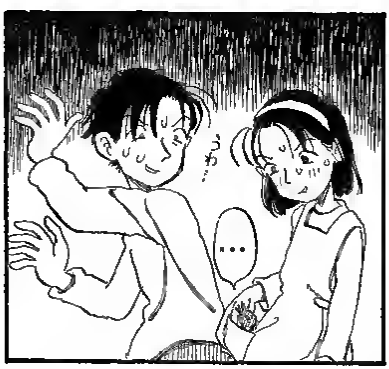

WHAT? A ROLL OF BANKNOTES? A PRECIOUS STONE?
I PICKED UP SOMETHING AMAZING.
SOS-UKE ...

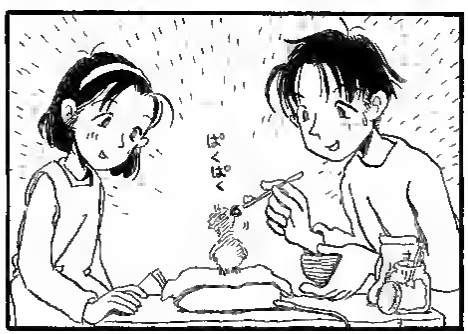
Bird Week!




...


HEATER, HEATER!
CONTA-INER, CONTA-INER!


...


ぱくぱく

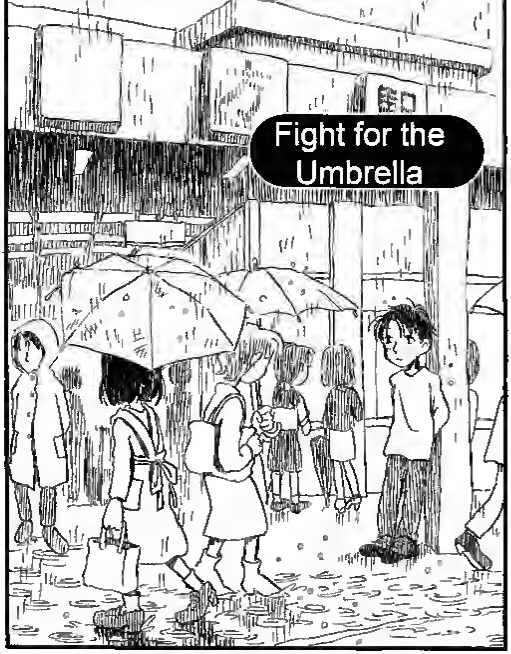
IT SAYS THAT YOU HAVE TO PUT IN SUGAR IN THE BEGINNING FOR IT TO EAT.
HERE YOU GO, EAT!
ふぅ
すり餌
小鳥用

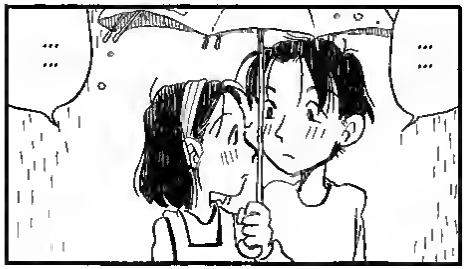
ぺろぺろ
きょうびびび
ぴぴぴ
ナデナデ
…
けたたたたた
AH, SO IT GETS UP AT 5 IN THE MORNING
I HOPE IT GETS WELL.
…
ペロペロ
HEY, BE CARE-FUL!
びたーん
ボス

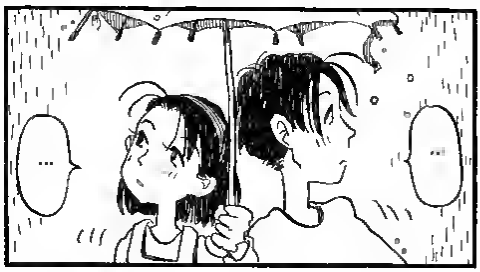
うひゃあ
AH, I WONDER WHAT KIND OF A CHICK IT IS ...
EXCUSE ME.
ぴーん
ちいい
ぴきぴき

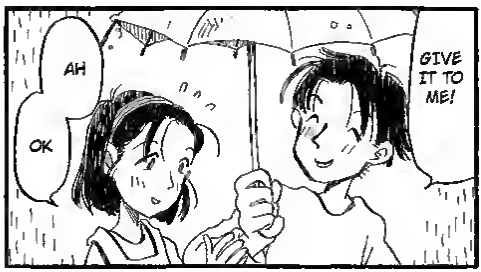
I'M SO GLAD.
ME, TOO!
...
...
...
WE HAVE TO PUT IT TO BED SOON ...
LET'S GO BACK ...
I DON'T WANT IT!
BUT YOU LOOK LIKE IT.
HERE YOU GO!
SOSUKE ...
WHAT AM I SAYING ...

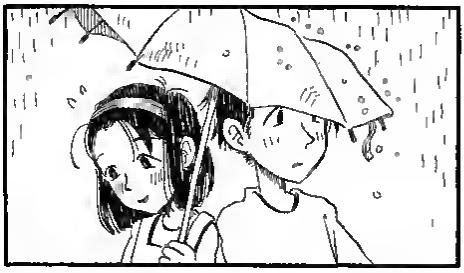
IT'S RAINING HARD, ISN'T IT?
AH, I AM LUCKY I RAN INTO YOU, MICHI!

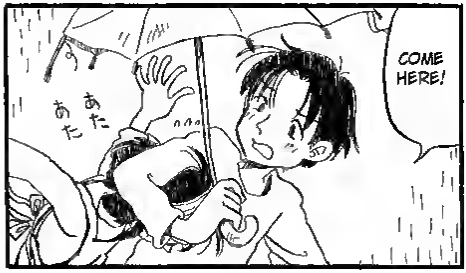

Fight for the Umbrella

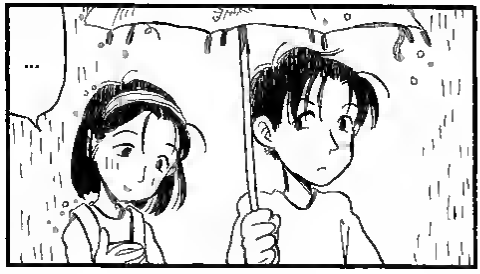

...
...
...
...

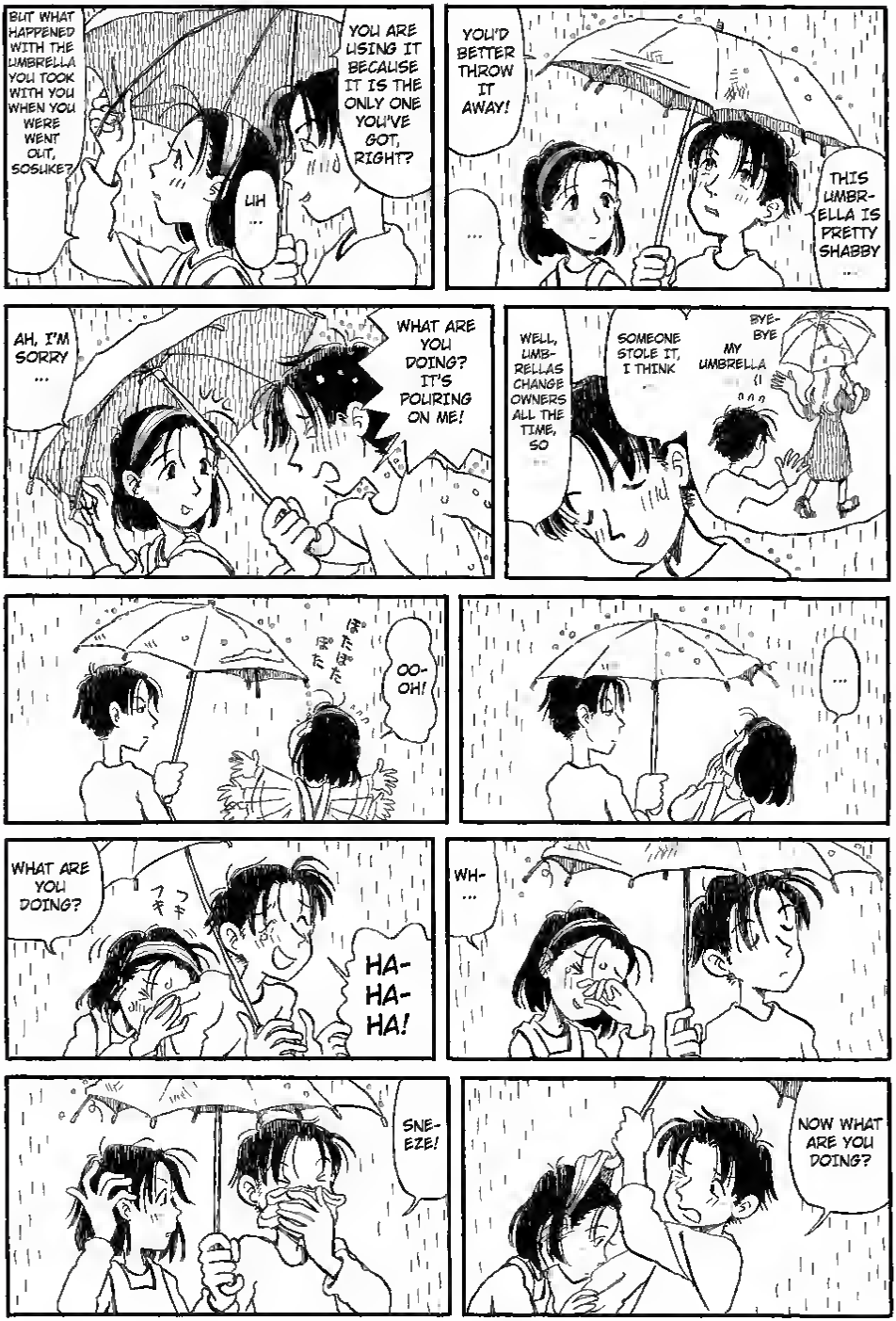

...
...


AH
OK
GIVE IT TO ME!

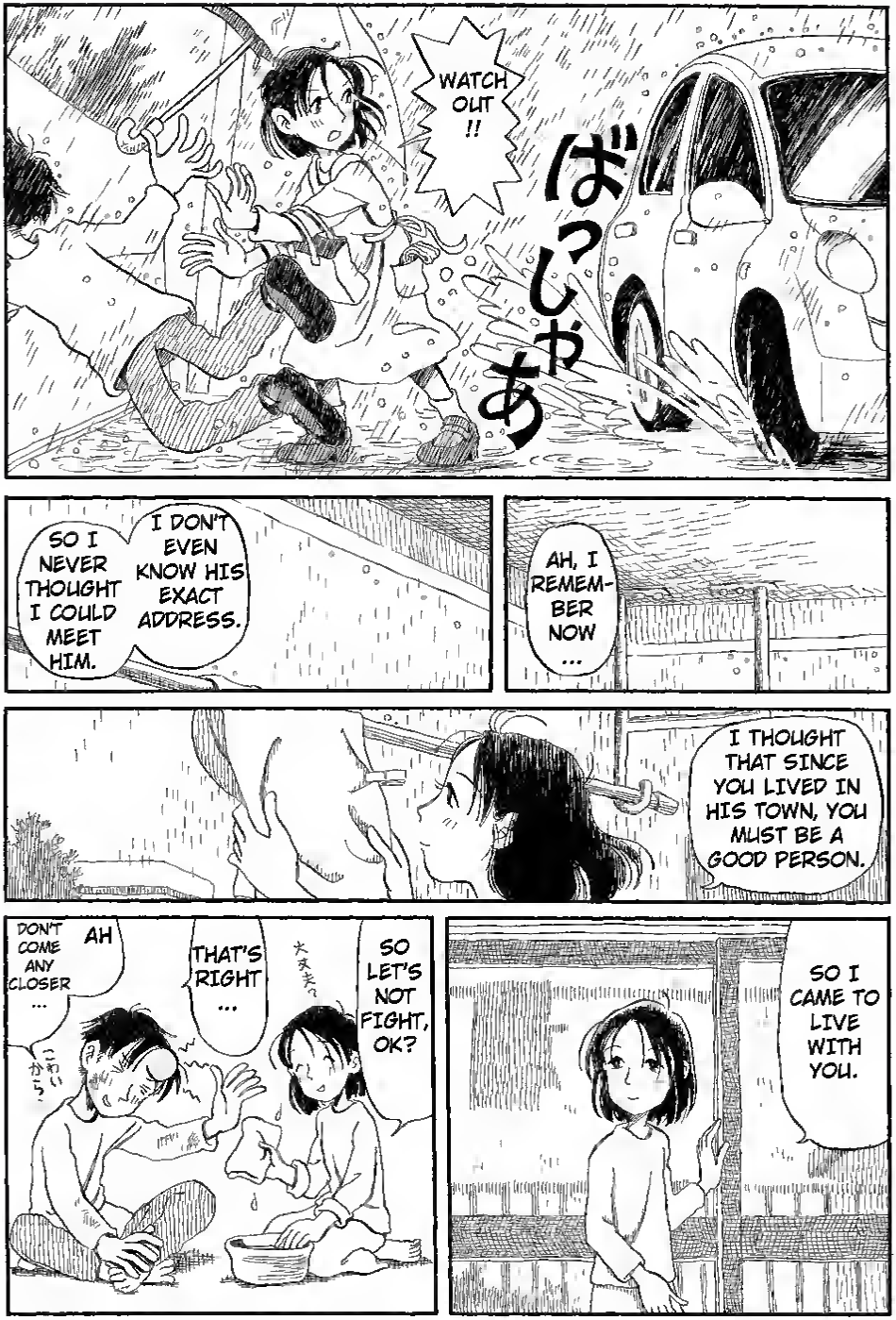


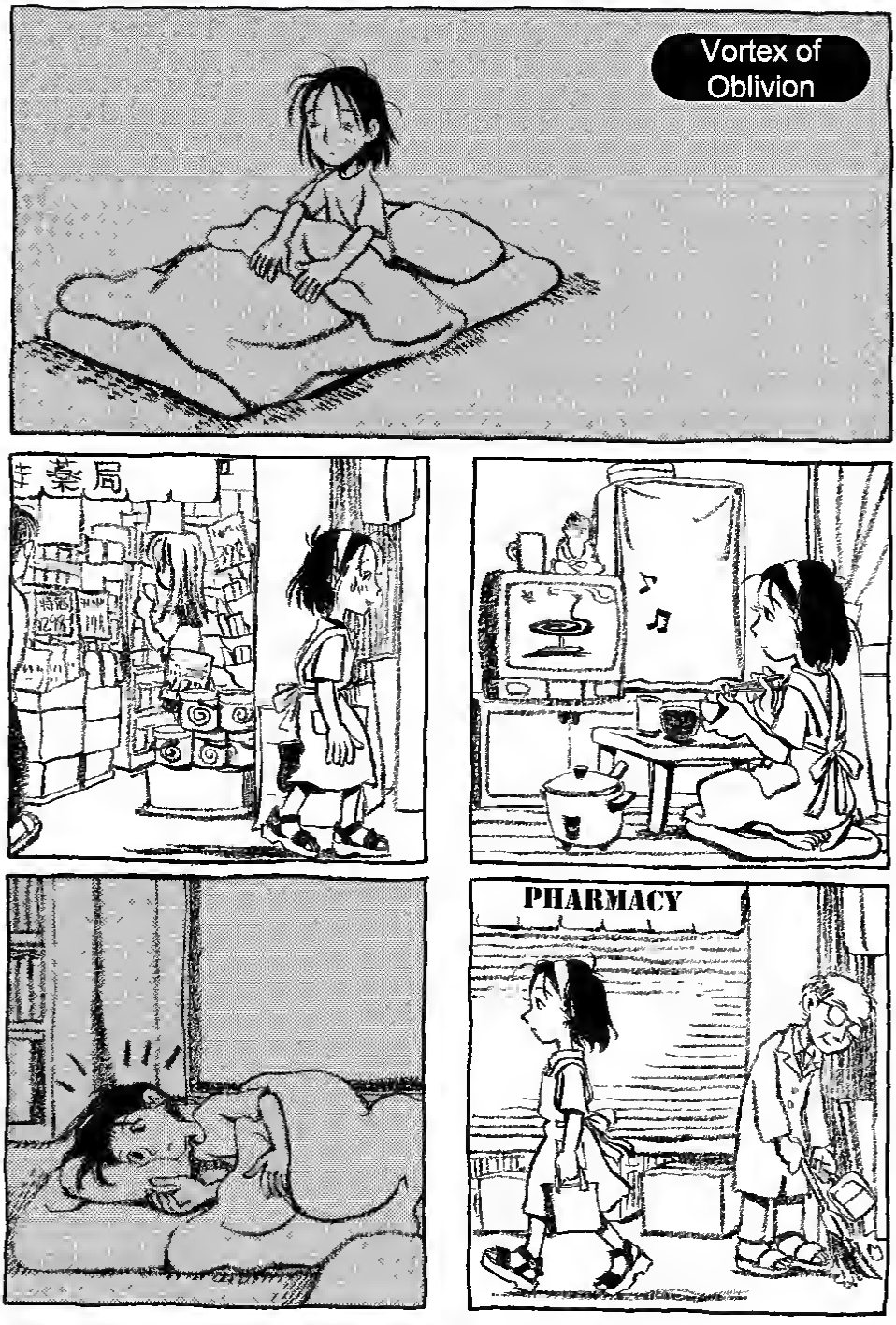

COME HERE!
あた
あた

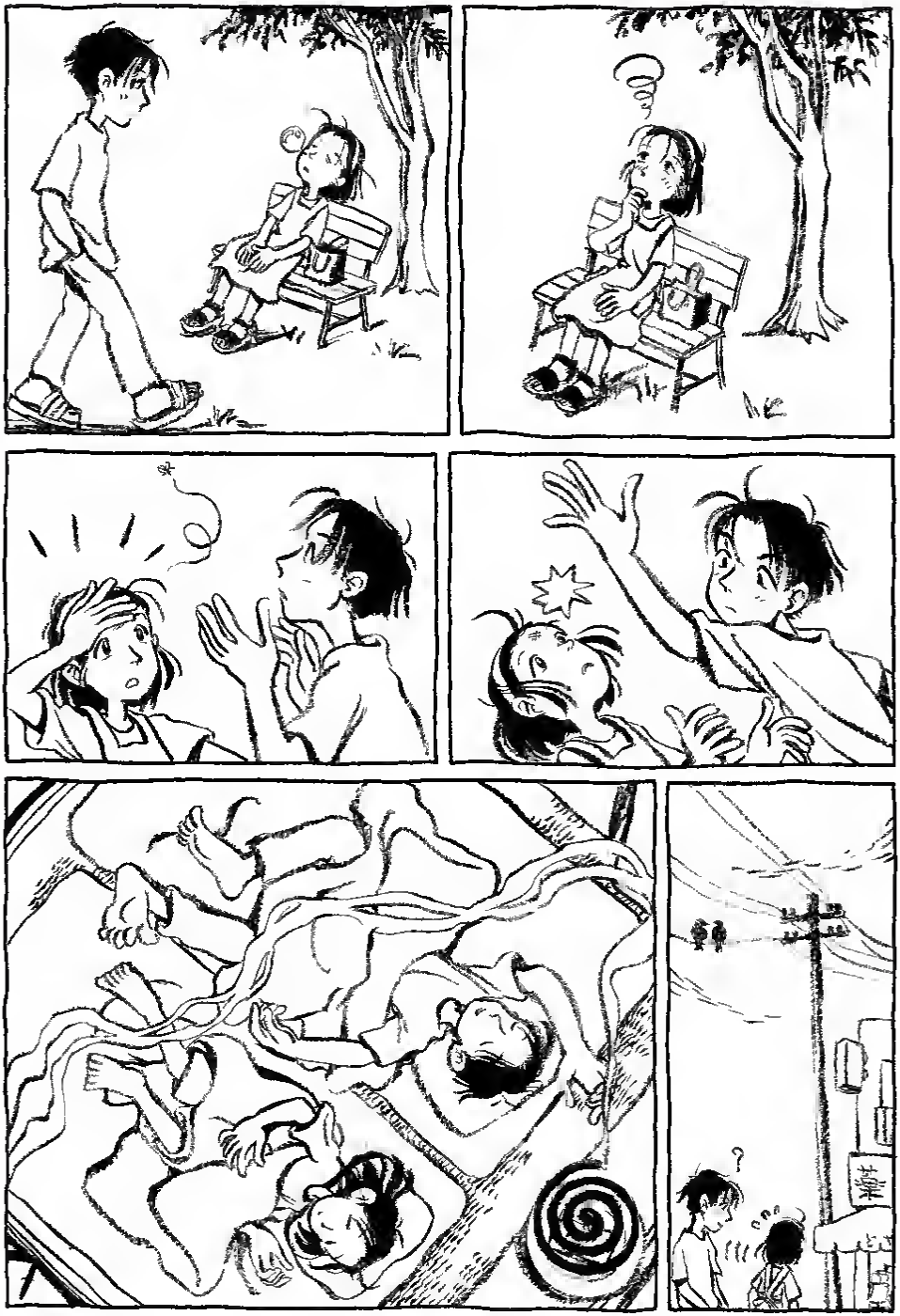

...


BUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE UMBRELLA YOU TOOK WITH YOU WHEN YOU WERE WENT OUT, SOSUKE?
UH ...
YOU ARE USING IT BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY ONE YOU'VE GOT, RIGHT?
YOU'D BETTER THROW IT AWAY!
...
THIS UMBR-ELLA IS PRETTY SHABBY ...
AH, I'M SORRY ...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IT'S POURING ON ME!
WELL, UMB-RELLAS CHANGE OWNERS ALL THE TIME, SO
SOMEONE STOLE IT, I THINK
MY UMBRELLA
BYE-BYE
ぽたぽた ぽた
OO-OH!
...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
フキ フキ
HA-HA-HA!
WH- ...
SNE-EZE!
NOW WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

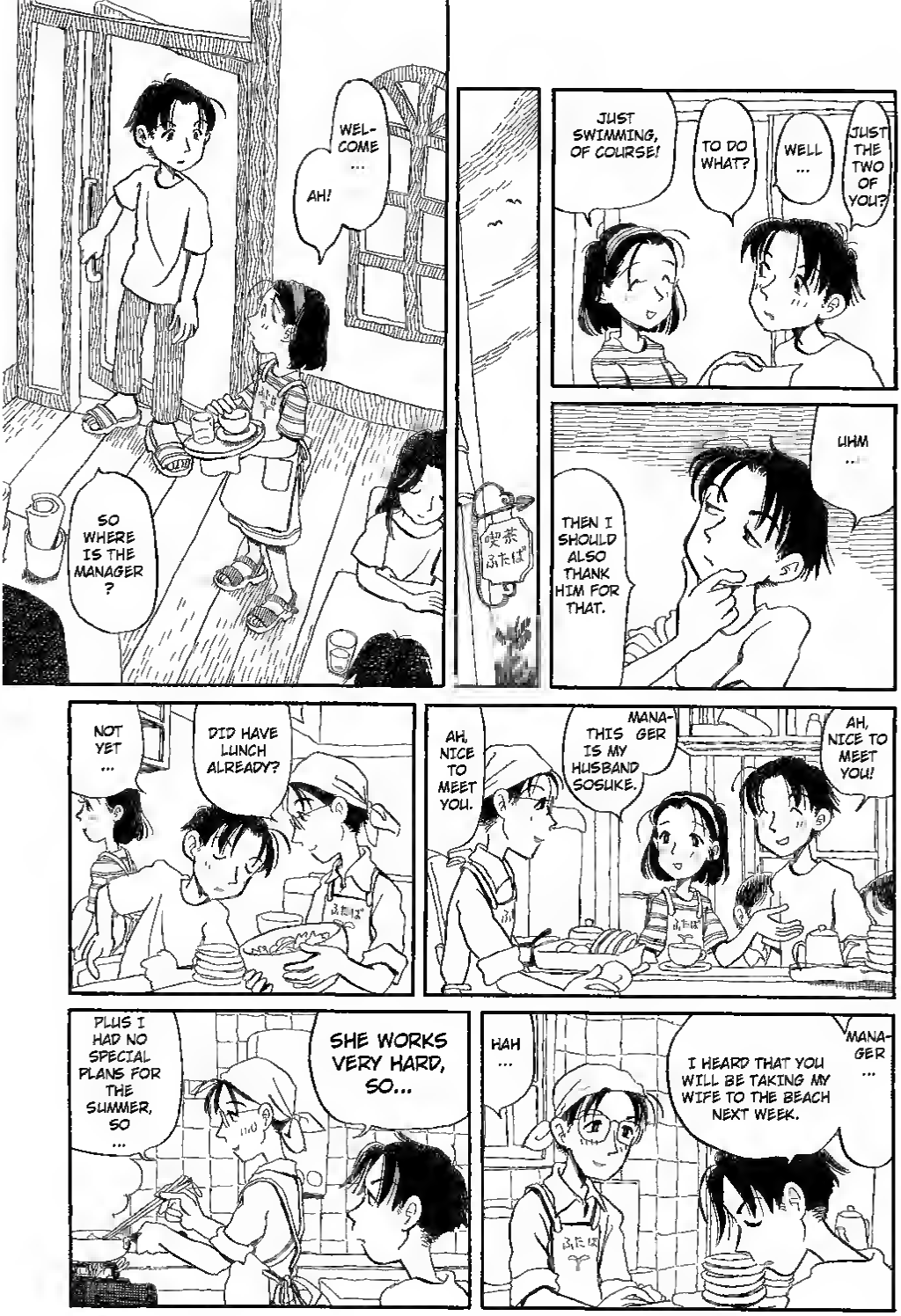
HEY, MICHI ...
TAKEBAYASHI
HAH
SO THAT'S WHY YOU CAME TO LIVE WITH ME, RIGHT?
RIGHT ?
... ...
ACTUALLY YOU KNOW THAT KENJI TAKEBAYASHI LIVES NEAR HERE, RIGHT?
...
MI- ...
THAT'S RIGHT.


WATCH OUT !!
ばっしゃあ
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS EXACT ADDRESS.
SO I NEVER THOUGHT I COULD MEET HIM.
AH, I REMEMBER NOW ...
I THOUGHT THAT SINCE YOU LIVED IN HIS TOWN, YOU MUST BE A GOOD PERSON.
SO LET'S NOT FIGHT, OK?
大丈夫?
THAT'S RIGHT ...
AH
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER ...
こわいから。
SO I CAME TO LIVE WITH YOU.

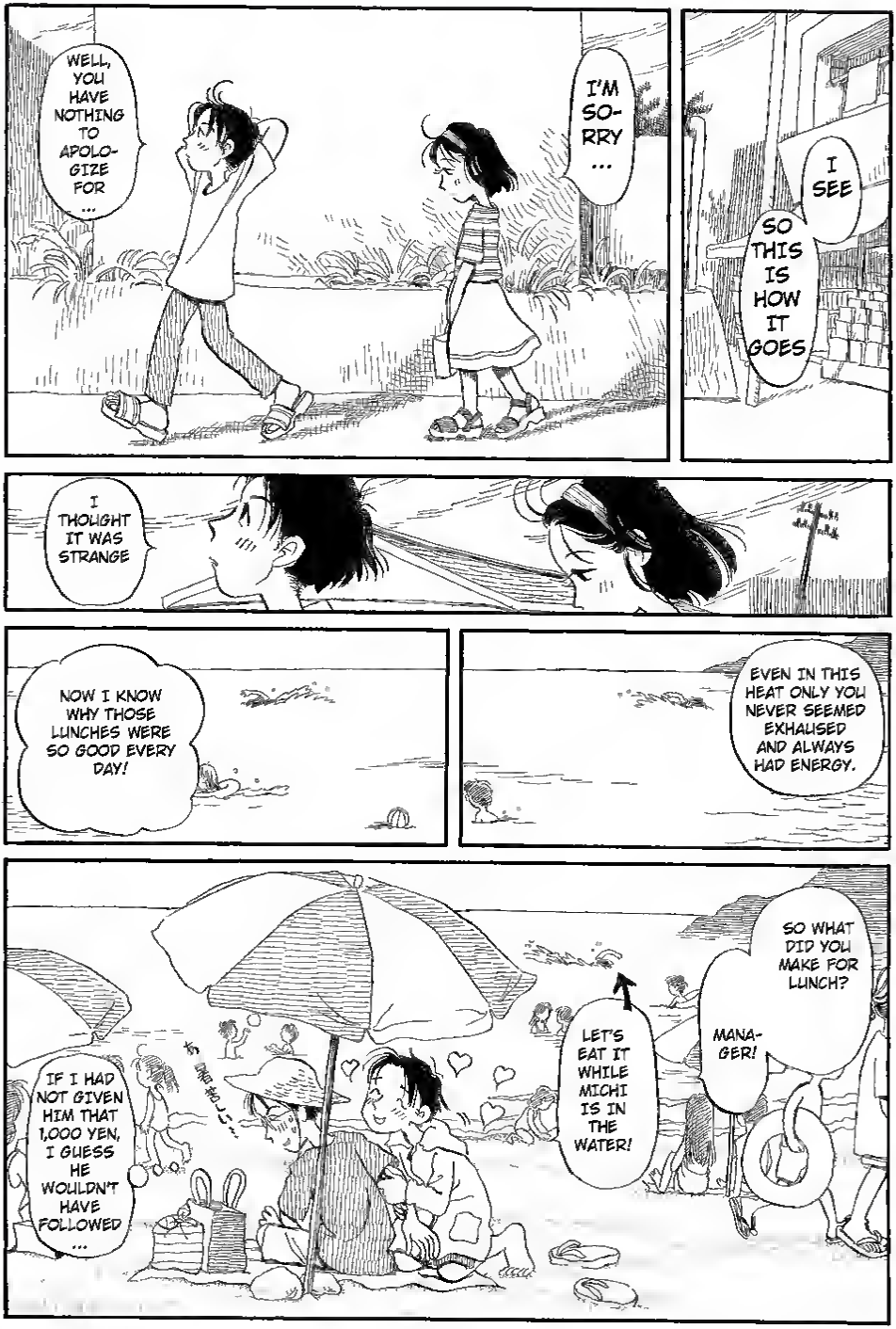

Vortex of Oblivion
PHARMACY



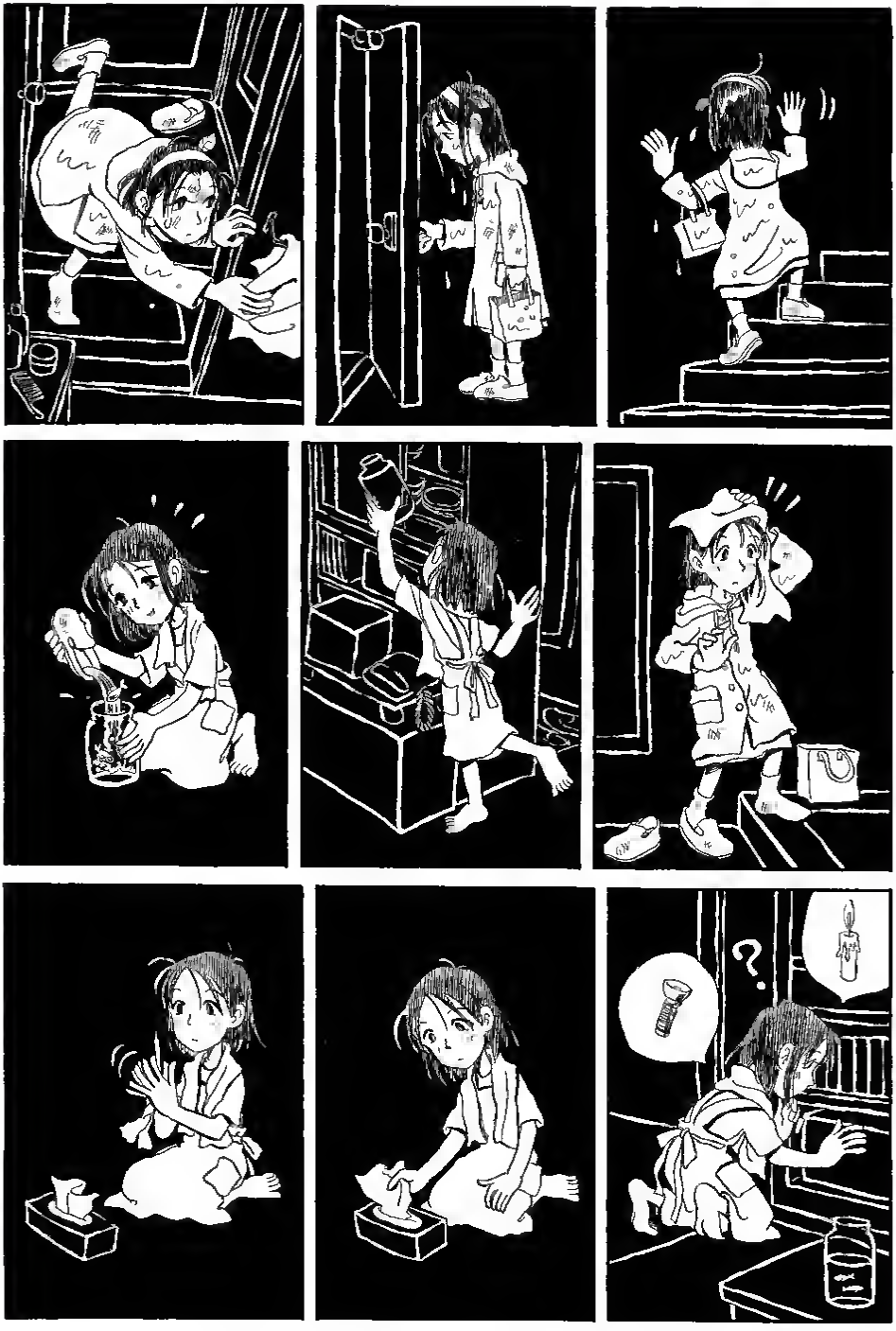
The Lovely Manager
I'M BACK ...
...
AH, SO HOT ...
SO-SOS-UKE !?
ぼったり
WEL-COME BACK
AH
BUT WHOM ARE YOU GOING TO THE BEACH WITH?
WITH MY MANA-GER.
OF COURSE! ESPECIALLY IF IT'S A TEST OF COURAGE!
I GUESS I'D BETTER GET A NEW SWIMMING SUIT, RIGHT?
WELL, I'LL BE GOING TO THE BEACH NEXT WEEK, SO ...

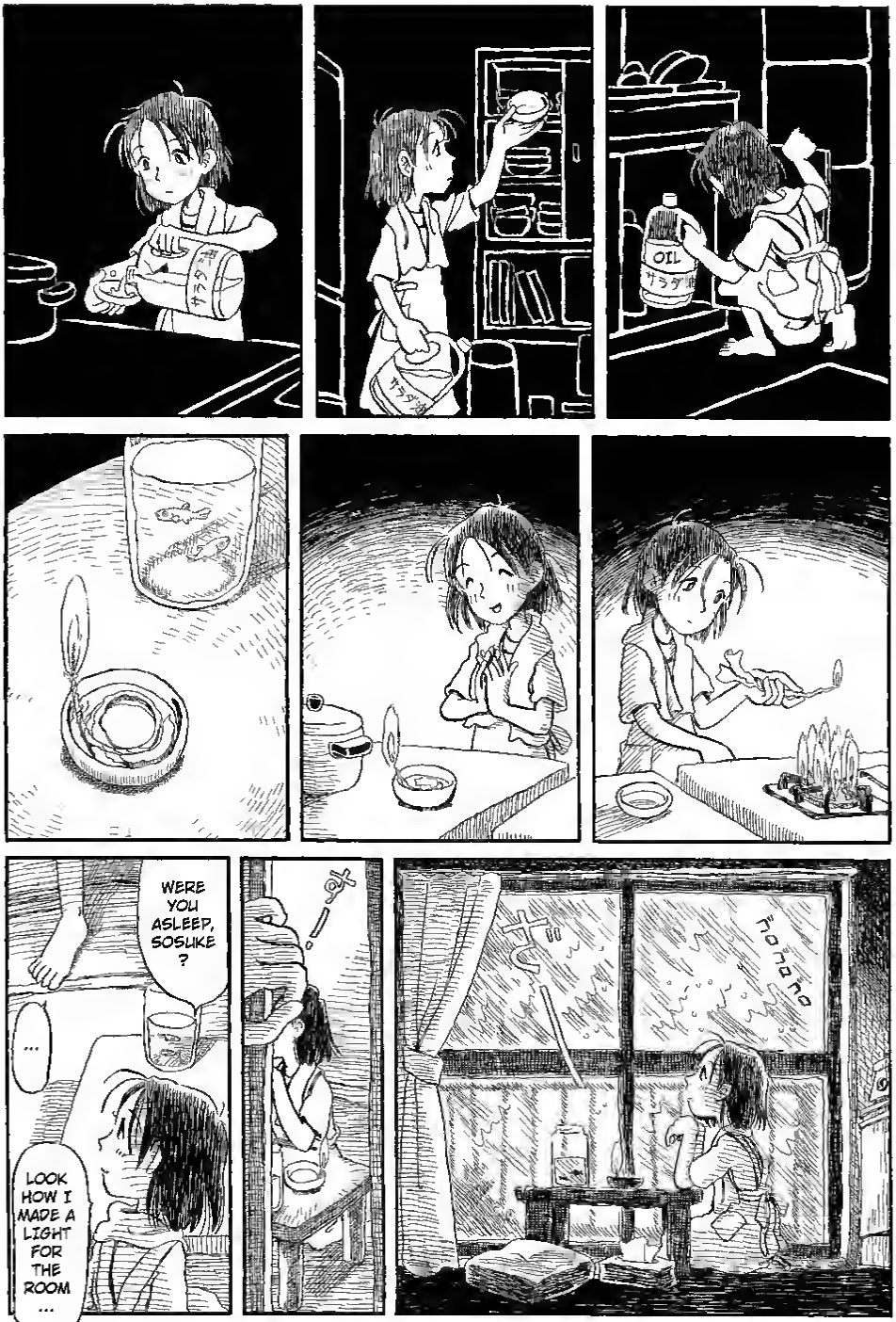

WEL-
COME
...
AH!
SO
WHERE
IS THE
MANAGER
?
喫茶
ふたば
JUST
SWIMMING,
OF COURSE!
TO DO
WHAT?
WELL
...
JUST
THE
TWO
OF
YOU?
UHM
...
THEN I
SHOULD
ALSO
THANK
HIM FOR
THAT.
NOT
YET
...
DID HAVE
LUNCH
ALREADY?
AH,
NICE
TO
MEET
YOU.
MANA-
THIS GER
IS MY
HUSBAND
SOSUKE.
AH,
NICE TO
MEET
YOU!
PLUS I
HAD NO
SPECIAL
PLANS FOR
THE
SUMMER,
SO
...
SHE WORKS
VERY HARD,
SO...
HAH
...
I HEARD THAT YOU
WILL BE TAKING MY
WIFE TO THE BEACH
NEXT WEEK.
MANA-
GER
...

HAH ?
SHE IS A VERY GOOD MATCH FOR YOU, MY WIFE ...
WELL, YOU ARE TAKING GOOD CARE OF HER, SO I WILL LET YOU HAVE HER FOR A SPECIAL PRICE - JUST 10,000 YEN PER DAY!
SO HOW ABOUT MY ALLO-WANCE?
BUT IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT THAT, THEN WE SHOULD CANCEL THAT PLAN, I GUESS ...
WELL, HERE YOU ARE ...
AH, WAIT, WAIT!
... ...
3,000 YEN SOUNDS MORE LIKE IT, RIGHT?
.. ...
WELL ...
THAT'S TOO MUCH, I GUESS
HOW ABOUT 5,000 YEN THEN ?
WH-WHAT !?
HYAH !!
MANAGER, CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT?
YOU'LL BURN IN HELL FOR THIS ...
BUT I WON'T LET HER GET A NEW SWIM-MING SUIT!
YOU CAN HAVE HER FOR 1,000 YEN!
IT WOULD BE A RIP OFF, BUT ...
WON'T HE STOP ALREADY
... ...


I'M SO-RRY ...
WELL, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO APOLO-GIZE FOR ...
I SEE
SO THIS IS HOW IT GOES
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE
EVEN IN THIS HEAT ONLY YOU NEVER SEEMED EXHAUSED AND ALWAYS HAD ENERGY.
NOW I KNOW WHY THOSE LUNCHES WERE SO GOOD EVERY DAY!
SO WHAT DID YOU MAKE FOR LUNCH?
MANA-GER!
LET'S EAT IT WHILE MICHI IS IN THE WATER!
IF I HAD NOT GIVEN HIM THAT 1,000 YEN, I GUESS HE WOULDN'T HAVE FOLLOWED ...

Entry Without Permission
池へ入るべからず
公園事務局

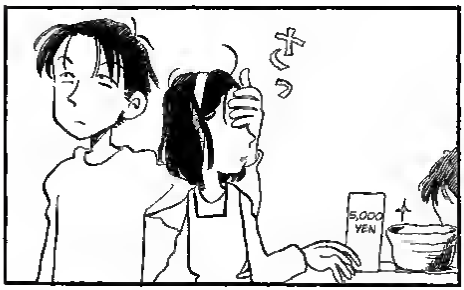



OIL
サラダ油
WERE YOU ASLEEP, SOSUKE ?
...
LOOK HOW I MADE A LIGHT FOR THE ROOM ...
Hanabi

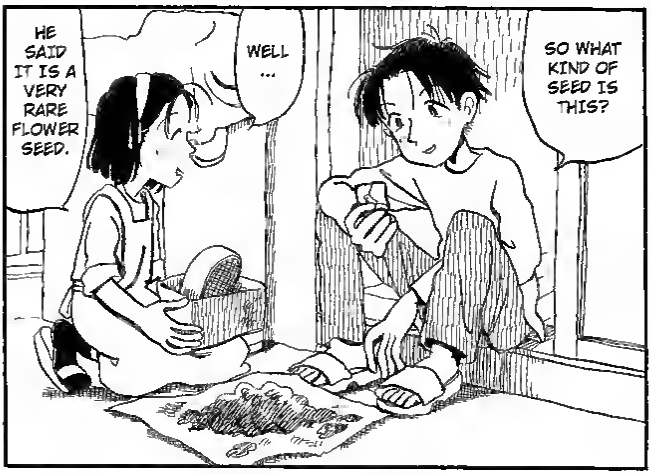
ピカ
YOU LOOK QUITE DIFF...
ER-ENT
...
I'VE ENTERED THE WRONG APARTMENT!
SINCE WHEN ARE YOU ON GOOD TERMS WITH THE LADY FROM DOWNSTAIRS?
YEP!
MICHI, COME OVER AGAIN ANY TIME!

REALLY !? WELL, THEN ...
YOU CAN HAVE ANY-THING YOU WANT!

くるっ
SAME AS NEW ¥7 000


5,000 YEN

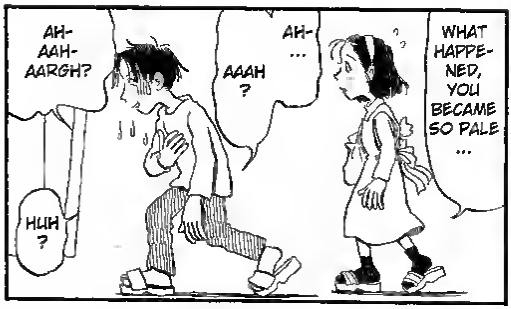
Flower of Evil
ALRIGHT, I GOT MY SALARY, SO
I FEEL LIKE BUYING YOU SOMETHING, MICHI.


HE SAID IT IS A VERY RARE FLOWER SEED.
WELL ...
SO WHAT KIND OF SEED IS THIS?

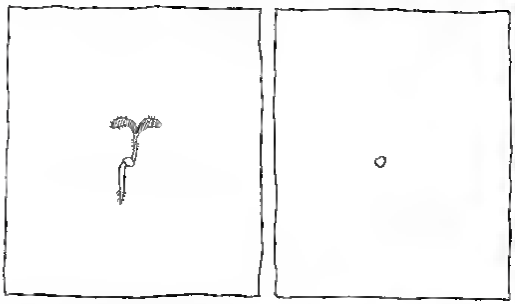
FLOWER SEEDS EACH ONE 100 YEN

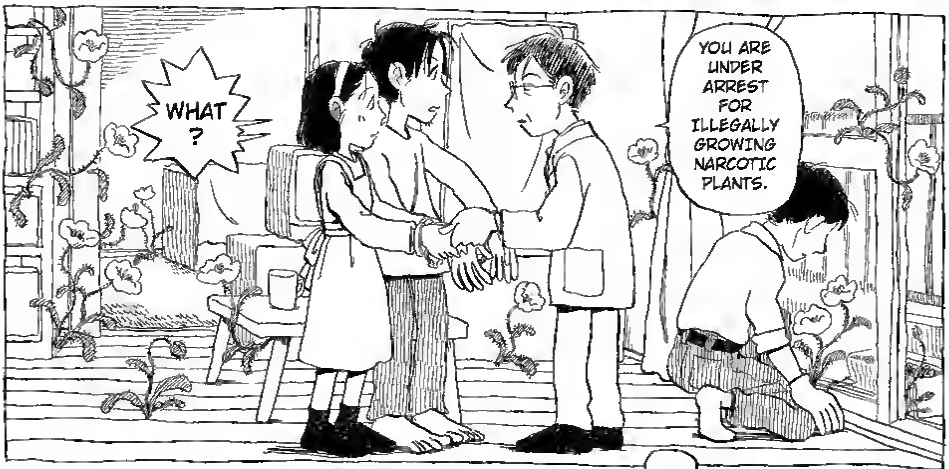
SNEEZE!
...
THEY ARE PRETTY TINY AREN'T THEY
HMM ...
...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
DON'T MENTION IT, HAHAHA!
はい
I'M GOING OUT ...
WH- WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SOS- UKE

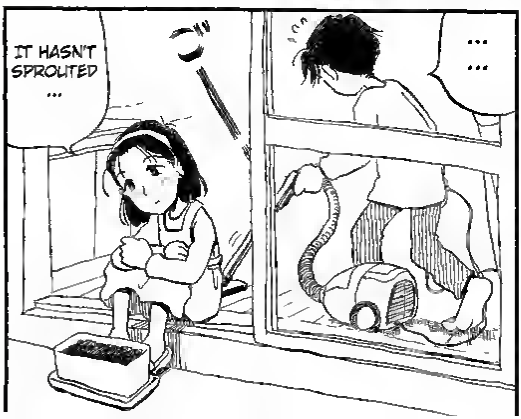
GARDENING SH
THIS ONE IS DIFFE-RENT, TOO ...
UH ...
AH, MICHI ...
INDEED
BUT THEY WERE RATHER STRANGE. I WONDER WHETHER THEY'LL GROW PROPERLY.
YEP
DID YOU SOW THE SEEDS ALREADY?
POPPY SEEDS ROASTED WILL NOT GROW!
!

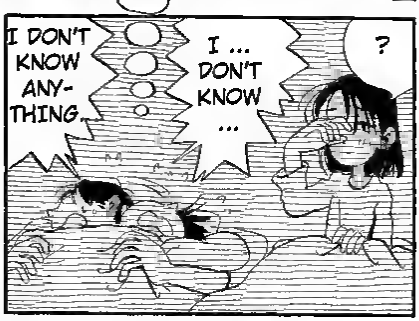

AH-
AAH-
AARGH?
HUH
?
AH-
...
AAAH
?
WHAT
HAPPE-
NED,
YOU
BECAME
SO PALE
...

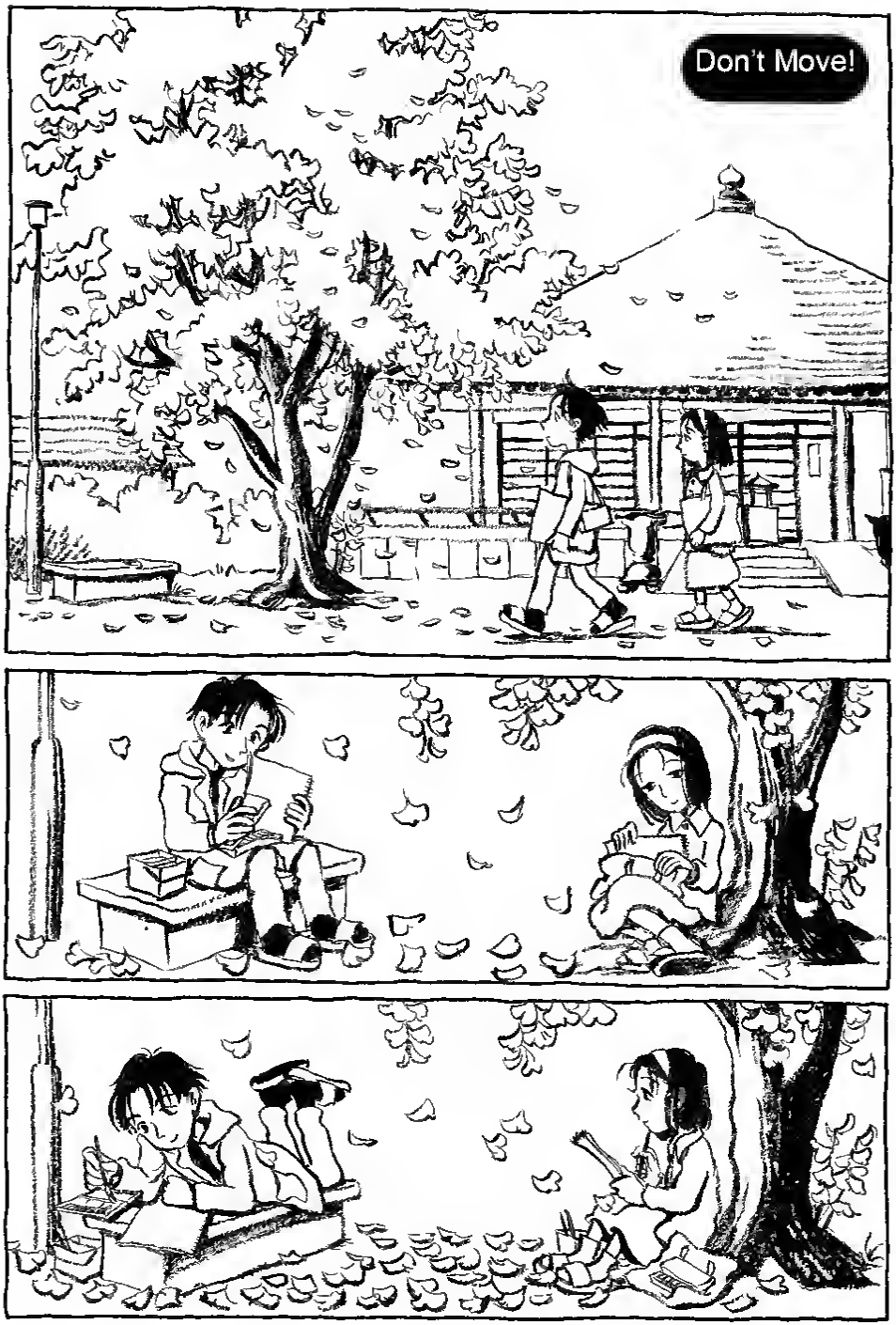
AH
!!

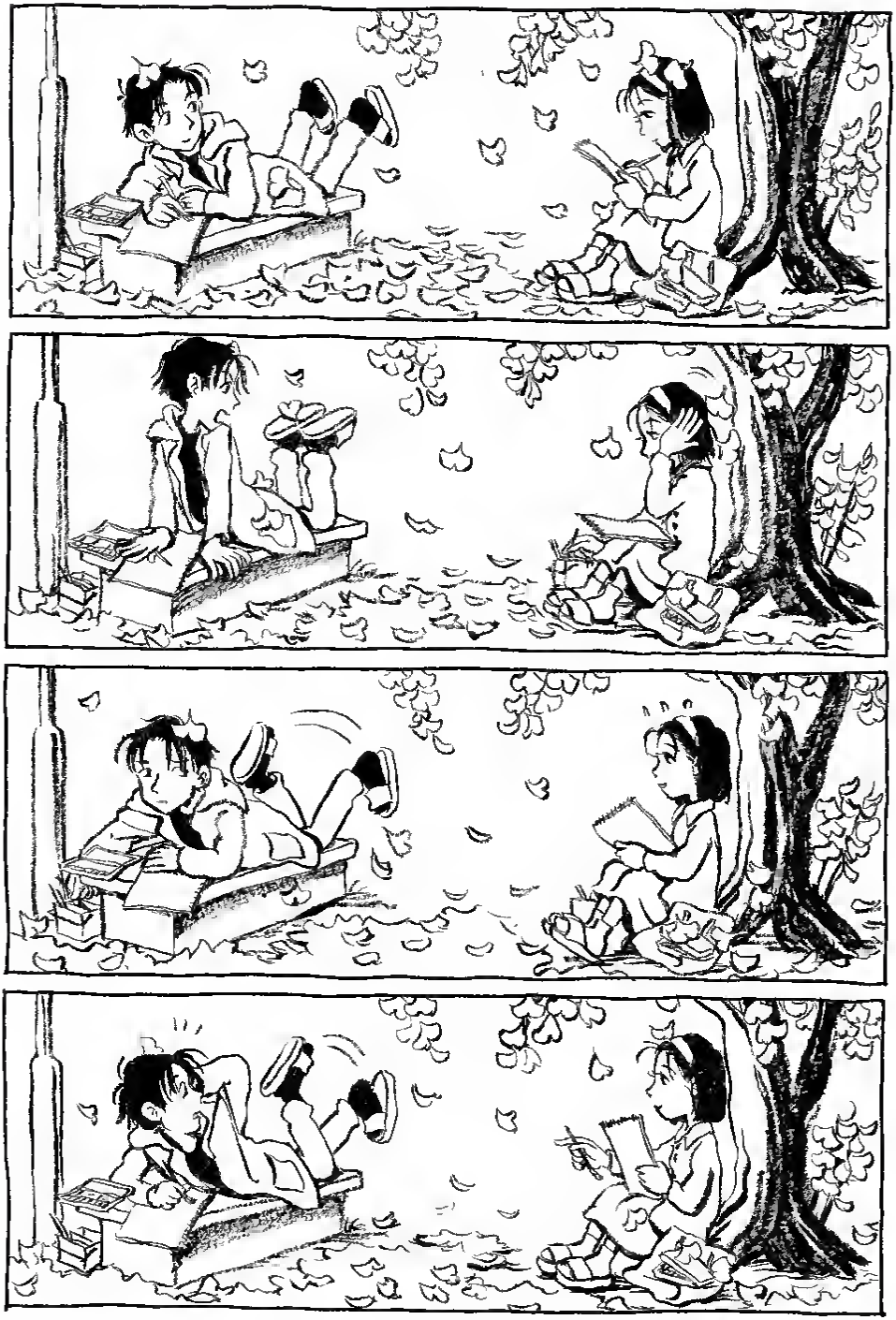


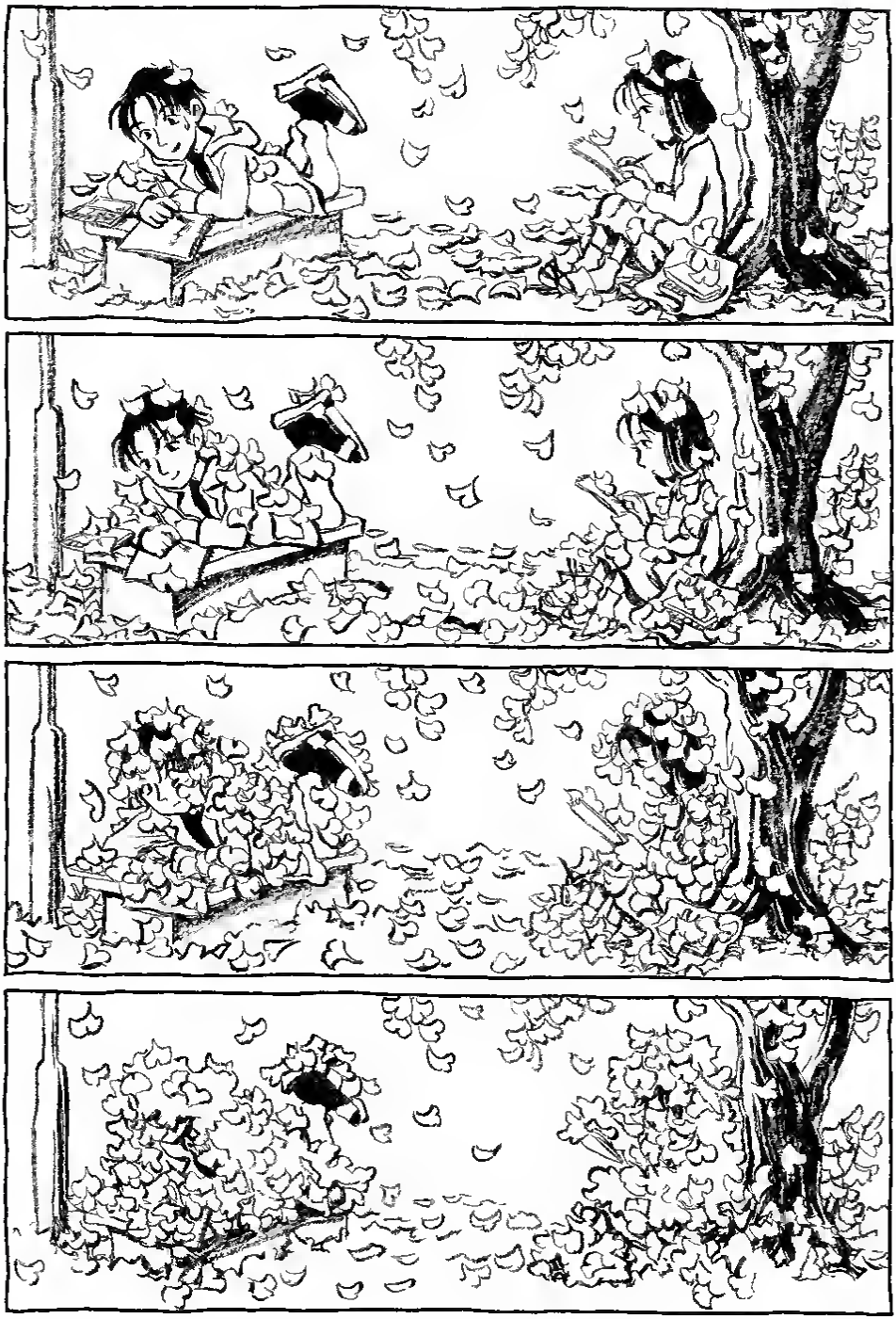

WHAT
?
YOU ARE
UNDER
ARREST
FOR
ILLEGALLY
GROWING
NARCOTIC
PLANTS.


IT HASN'T
SPROUTED
...
...
...


I DON'T
KNOW
ANY-
THING
I ...
DON'T
KNOW
...
?


Don't Move!

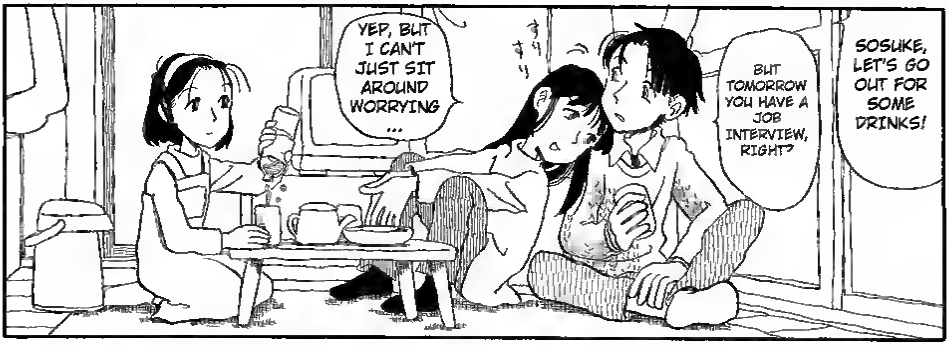


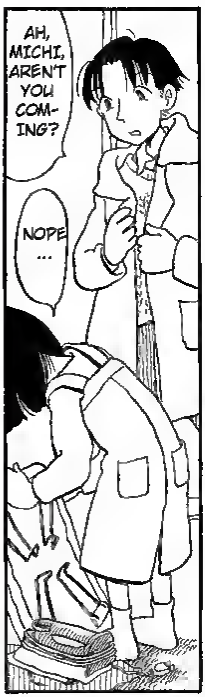


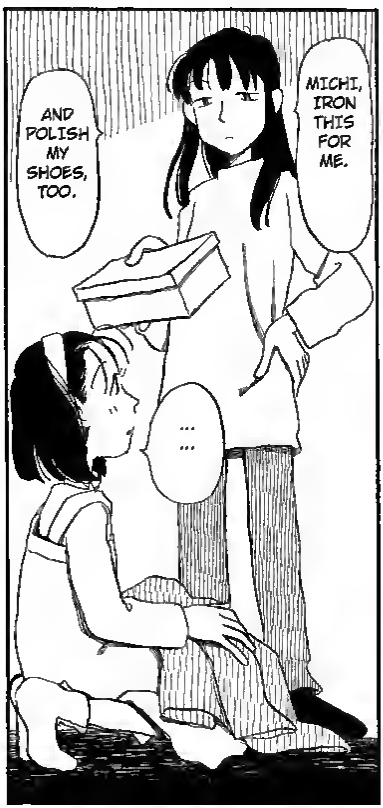
MICHI
SOSUKE

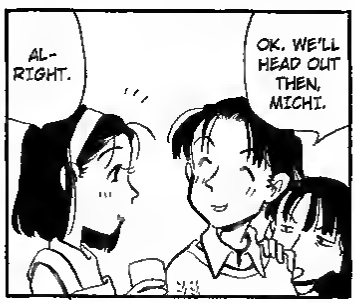
Sonoko
I'M BACK!
LONG TIME NO SEE, MICHI!
HI SONOKO!
IS EVERYBODY AT HOME FINE?
YEP, SAME AS ALWAYS.
MOTHER, FATHER, AND OLDER BROTHER HOSUKE
...
...
SORRY... THE SHOES WEREN'T LINED UP.
AH, SORRY.
YOU LOOK FINE AS ALWAYS, TOO, MICHI
...
YEP, I GET BY
...
AH, RIGHT! THIS IS A SOUVENIR FOR YOU, BIG BROTHER SOSUKE!
HUH

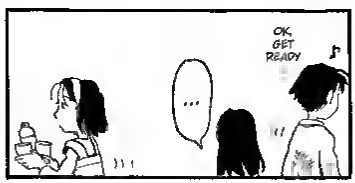
AH, THANKS ...
THIS IS FOR YOU, MICHI
PLEASE WEAR IT - IT TOOK ME 3 MONTHS TO MAKE IT!
AH, THANK YOU, SONOKO!

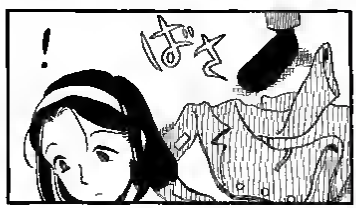

YEP, BUT I CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND WORRYING ...
BUT TOMORROW YOU HAVE A JOB INTERVIEW, RIGHT?
SOSUKE, LET'S GO OUT FOR SOME DRINKS!


AH, MICHI, AREN'T YOU COMING?
NOPE ...

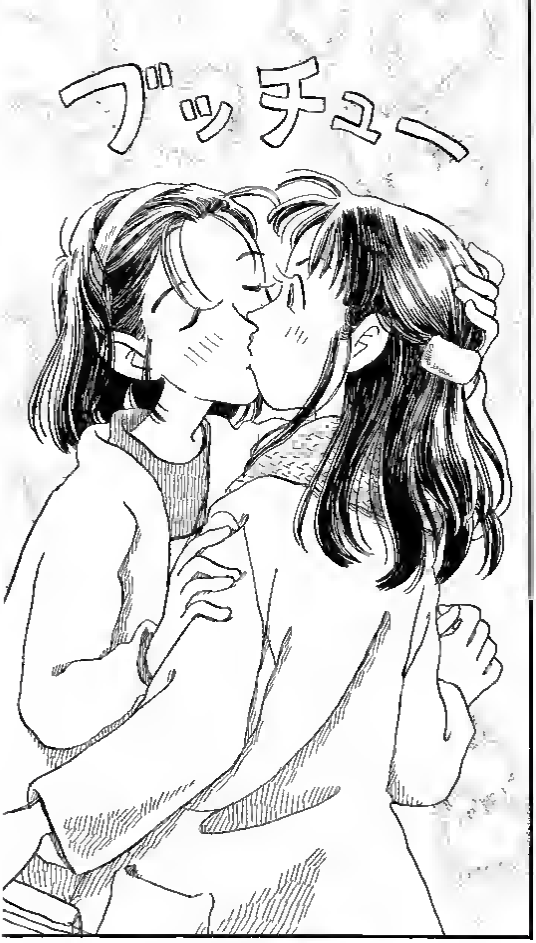

MICHI, IRON THIS FOR ME.
AND POLISH MY SHOES, TOO.
... ...


AL-RIGHT.
OK. WE'LL HEAD OUT THEN, MICHI.

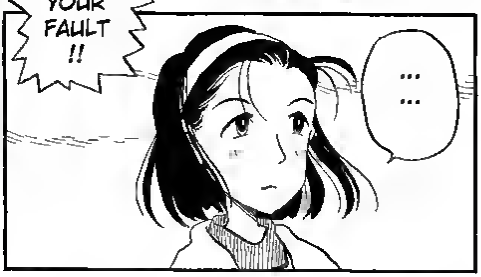

OK, GET READY
...

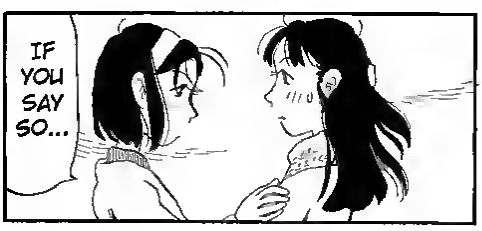

!

YOU DON'T GET TO HANG OUT WITH YOUR SISTER OFTEN, SO ...
AH, THANKS A LOT!
はい お財布
はいあーん
荘介兄
荘介兄
WHAT IS IT?
HEY, MICHI ...
WHEN I LOOK AT YOU, I LOSE MY FIGHTING SPIRIT!
WATCH OUT FOR CARS!
...
YEP, DO YOUR BEST!
I'LL BE GOING THEN.

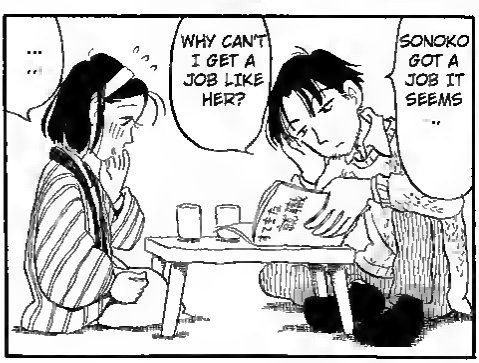

ブッチュー

SEE ME OFF WITH MORE DESIRE !


IF THEY DON'T HIRE ME, IT WILL BE YOUR FAULT !!
... ...

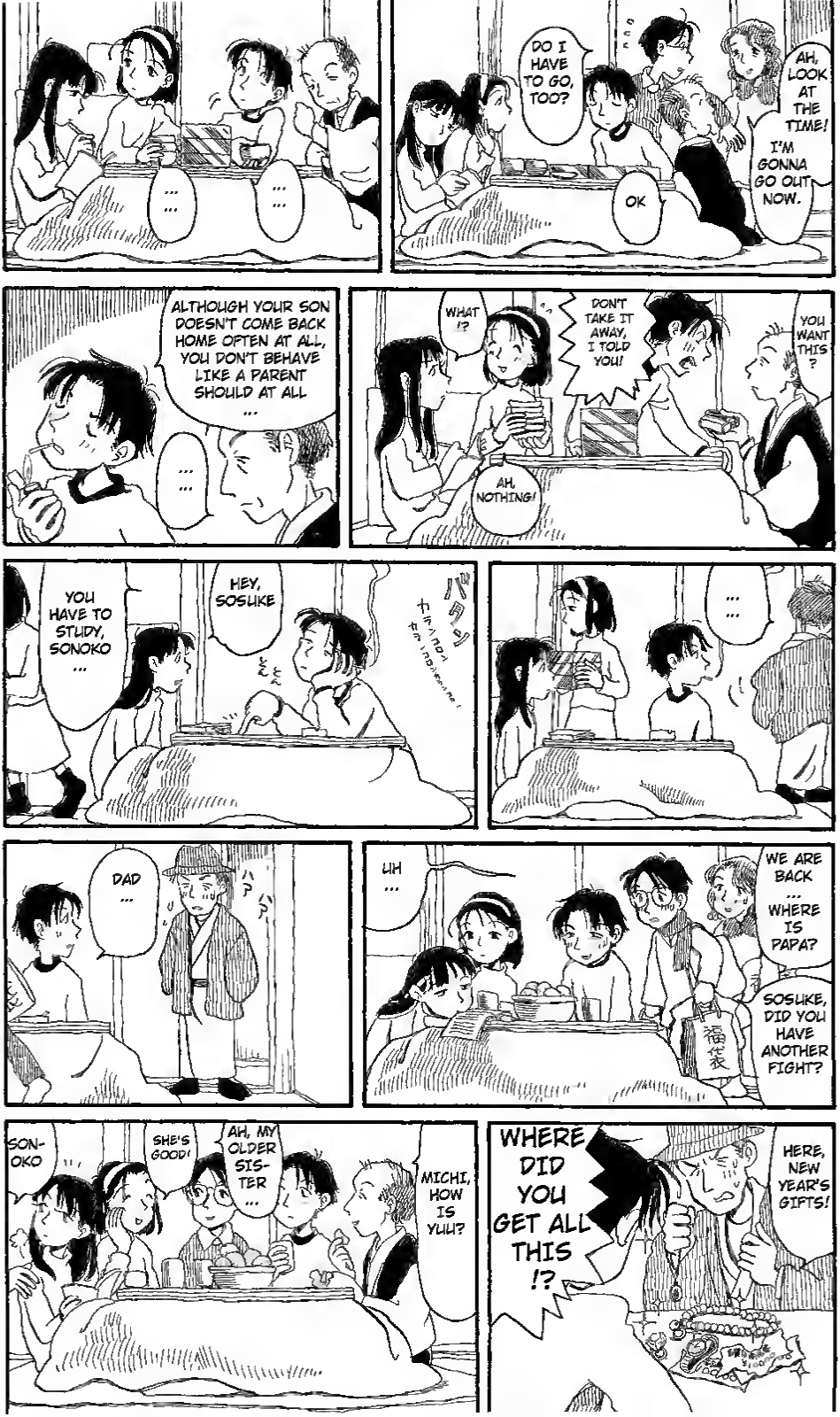

IF YOU SAY SO...

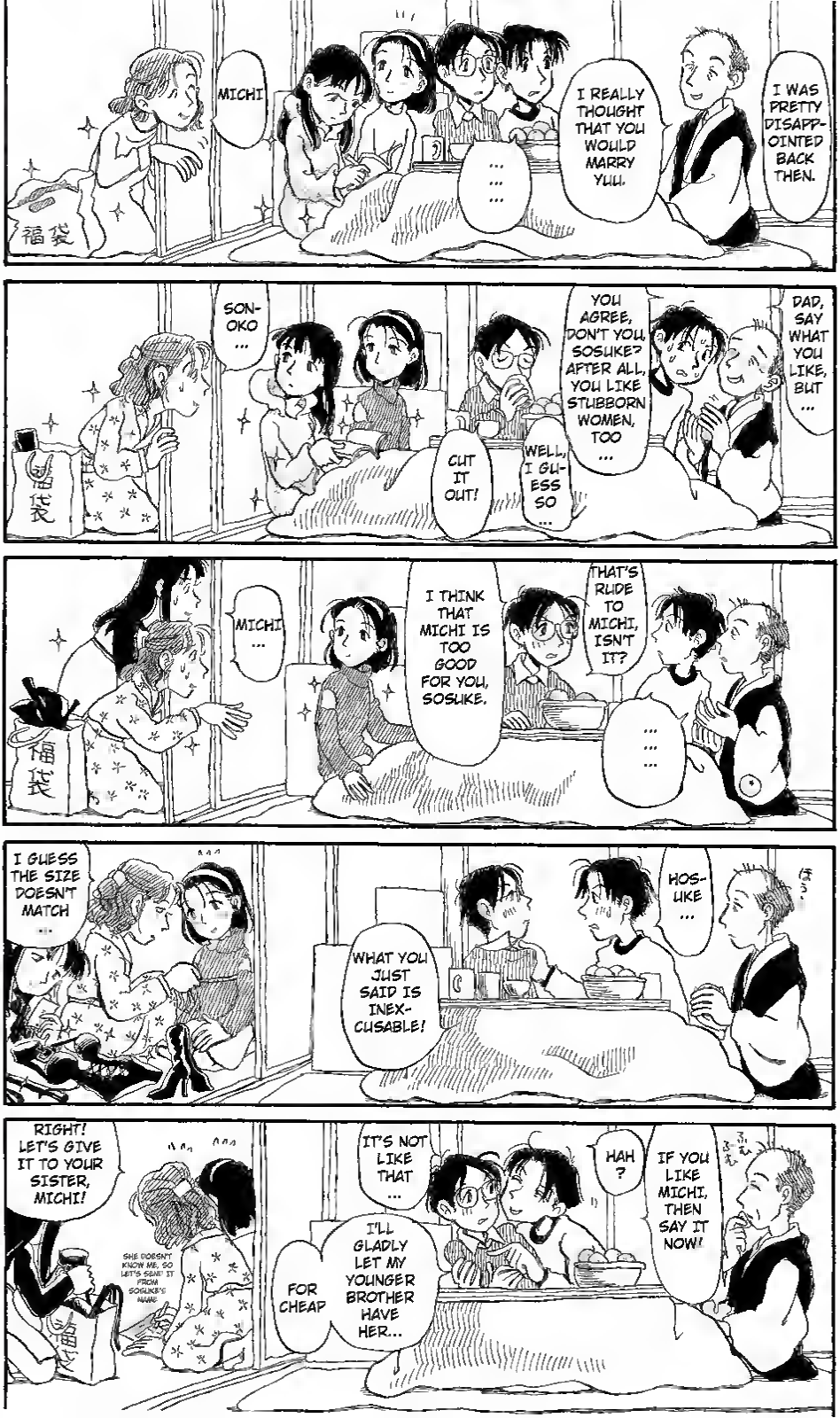
... ...
TONIGHT I'M MAKING TONKATSU FOR YOU!
GOOD LUCK, SONOKO !


... ...
WHY CAN'T I GET A JOB LIKE HER?
SONOKO GOT A JOB IT SEEMS ..

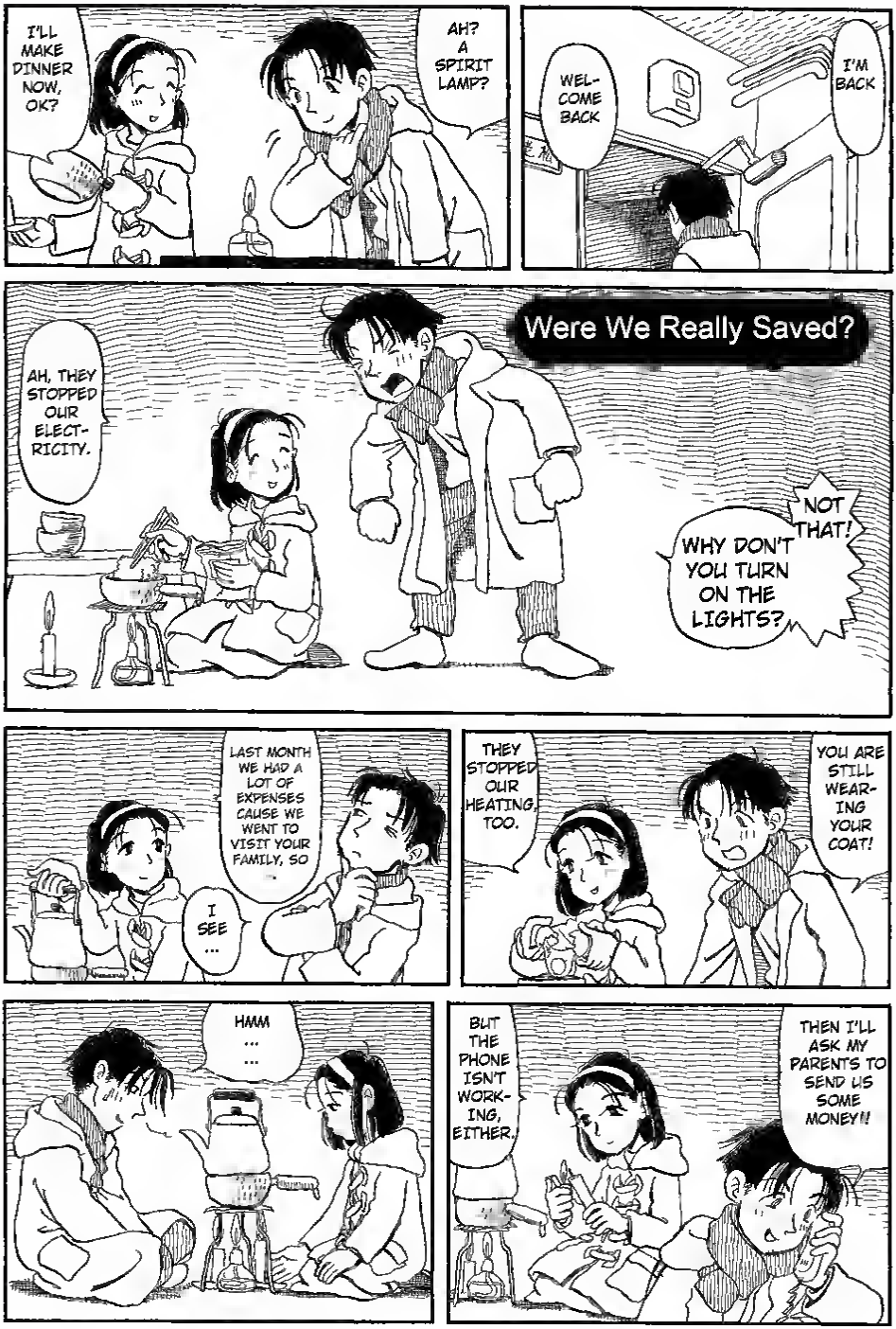
A WEEK LATER
BEC-AUSE OF ...
THAT WOMAN
EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION!
RI-GHT ...?

Spring with the In-laws
HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE MOTHER ..
HOSLIKE SONOKO ...
AH, SOSLIKE AND MICHI, DIDN'T NOTICE YOU WERE HERE ...
THAT'S WHY I HATE SPENDING NEW YEAR WITH MY FAMILY!!
SO I AM THE FIRST LAUGH OF THE NEW YEAR !!
LIGHTEN UP, YOU GOT A JOB ALREADY !
はっはっは！
THANK YOU ...
SONOKO, CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING A JOB!
SONOKO IS ALSO DOING WELL ...
OK, LET'S EAT ...
... ...
MICHI, DID YOU MAKE THESE DRY SARDINES?
AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT THE RECENT SHORTAGE OF SARDINES ?
MICHI, SONOKO HAS STILL NOT WRITTEN HER GRADUATION THESIS.
DON'T HIDE THINGS FROM ME!
IS THIS WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR?
RIGHT RIGHT


...
...
...
...
DO I HAVE TO GO, TOO?
OK
AH, LOOK AT THE TIME!
I'M GONNA GO OUT NOW.
ALTHOUGH YOUR SON DOESN'T COME BACK HOME OFTEN AT ALL, YOU DON'T BEHAVE LIKE A PARENT SHOULD AT ALL ...
...
...
WHAT !?
DON'T TAKE IT AWAY, I TOLD YOU!
AH, NOTHING!
YOU WANT THIS ?
YOU HAVE TO STUDY, SONOKO ...
HEY, SOSUKE
バラン
...
...
DAD ...
ハア ハア
UH ...
WE ARE BACK ... WHERE IS PAPA?
SOSUKE, DID YOU HAVE ANOTHER FIGHT?
福笑
SON-OKO
SHE'S GOOD!
AH, MY OLDER SIS-TER ...
MICHI, HOW IS YUU?
WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THIS !?
HERE, NEW YEAR'S GIFTS!


福袋
MICHI
...
...
...
I REALLY THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD MARRY YUU.
I WAS PRETTY DISAPP-OINTED BACK THEN.
SON-OKO ...
CUT IT OUT!
WELL, I GUESS SO ...
YOU AGREE, DON'T YOU, SOSUKE? AFTER ALL, YOU LIKE STUBBORN WOMEN, TOO ...
DAD, SAY WHAT YOU LIKE, BUT ...
MICHI ...
I THINK THAT MICHI IS TOO GOOD FOR YOU, SOSUKE.
THAT'S RUDE TO MICHI, ISN'T IT?
...
...
...
I GUESS THE SIZE DOESN'T MATCH ...
WHAT YOU JUST SAID IS INEX-CUSABLE!
HOS-UKE ...
ほう?
RIGHT! LET'S GIVE IT TO YOUR SISTER, MICHI!
SHE DOESN'T KNOW ME, SO LET'S SEND IT FROM SOSUKE'S NAME
FOR CHEAP
I'LL GLADLY LET MY YOUNGER BROTHER HAVE HER...
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT ...
HAH ?
IF YOU LIKE MICHI, THEN SAY IT NOW!
ふむ

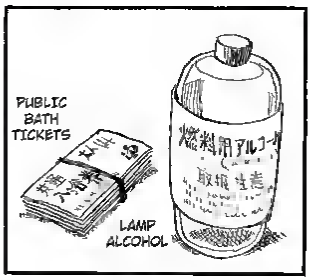
HUH?
WHICH ONE DO YOU PREFER, MICHI? SOSUKE OR HOSUKE?
YOU HAVE TO ASK HER FIRST BEFORE YOU DO THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?
YOU PLAN TO GIVE US A GRAND-CHILD BY DOING IT ONLY ONCE?
OK, WE DID IT ONCE, SO YOU CAN HAVE HER FOR 49,000.
SO, 000 YEN ...
...
...
WELL ...
はは
IT WILL BE YOUR FAULT IF I CAN'T FINISH MY THESIS!
WHY DO YOU KEEP STARING AT ME !?
SORRY ...
...
...
BECA-USE I SLEPT WITH A DIFFE-RENT PILLOW.
ACTUALLY, I GOT A CRICK IN MY NECK WHILE SLEEPING.
BY THE WAY, SHE WILL BE VISITING US SOON ON A BUSINESS TRIP!
MI-CHI ...
WHY DID YOUR SISTER SEND ME A LETTER ...?
WHY ARE YOU ANGRY?
I'M NOT.
BUT YOU KEEP LOOKING AWAY FROM THE MORNING.


I'LL MAKE DINNER NOW, OK?
AH? A SPIRIT LAMP?
WEL-COME BACK
I'M BACK
Were We Really Saved?
AH, THEY STOPPED OUR ELECT-RICITY.
NOT THAT!
WHY DON'T YOU TURN ON THE LIGHTS?
LAST MONTH WE HAD A LOT OF EXPENSES CAUSE WE WENT TO VISIT YOUR FAMILY, SO
I SEE ...
THEY STOPPED OUR HEATING, TOO.
YOU ARE STILL WEAR-ING YOUR COAT!
HMM ... ...
BUT THE PHONE ISN'T WORK-ING, EITHER.
THEN I'LL ASK MY PARENTS TO SEND US SOME MONEY!!

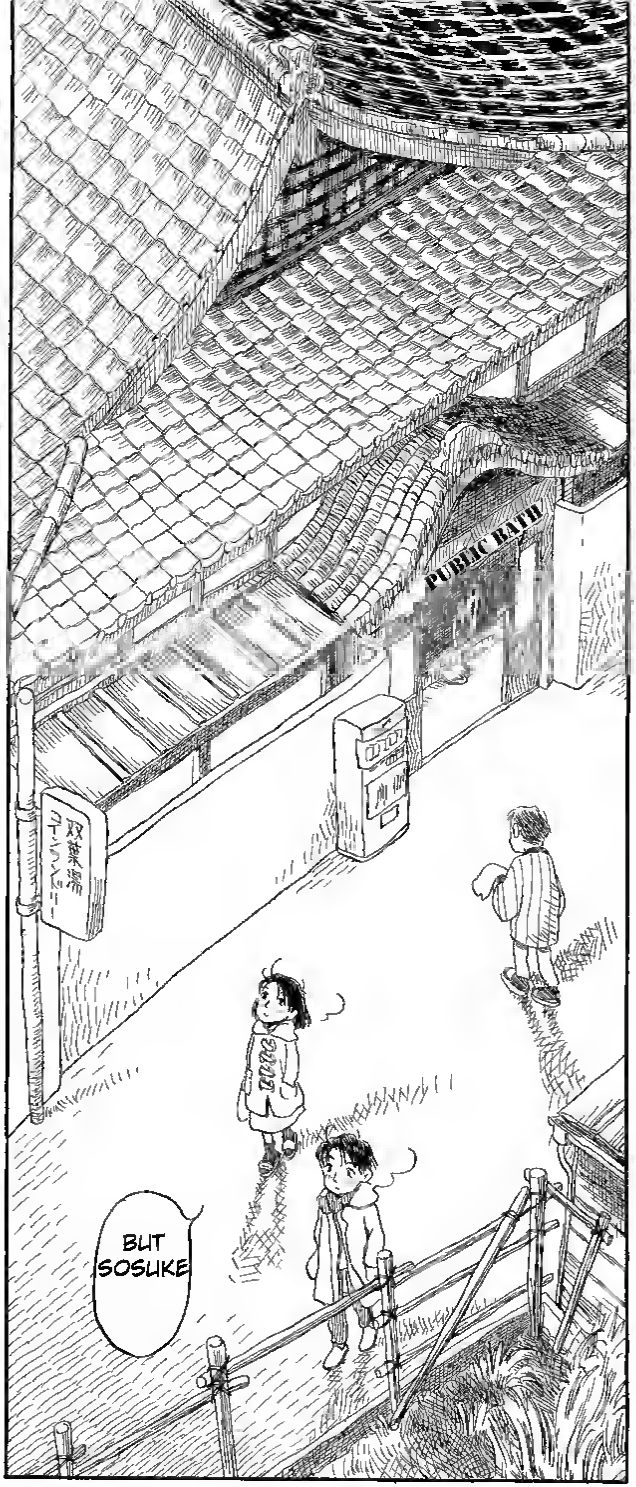
YOU REALLY HAVE A LOT OF VITALITY, DON'T YOU?
WE WERE REALLY SAVED BY THE ALCOHOL LAMP AND THE TRIPOD!
...
...
WELL, MICHI, DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT I WOULD COME BACK HERE IF I HAD MONEY!?
IS THAT SO?
TOGETHER WE HAVE 661 YEN ...
236 YEN
425 YEN
768 YEN
NOW WE HAVE 763 YEN!
AH, I FOUND SOME MORE!

YOU HAVE TO WASH THOSE!!
790 ...
770
SO 790 YEN ...
LUCK-ILY AT LEAST THE WATER IS STILL RUN-NING!
6826 YEN!!
PUBLIC BATH
ADULTS 400 YEN
STUDENTS 180 YEN
CHILDREN 80 YEN
WE ALSO HAVE PACK TICKETS -
10 TIMES FOR 3300 YEN
IND-EED
AH, WE ARE SAVED!

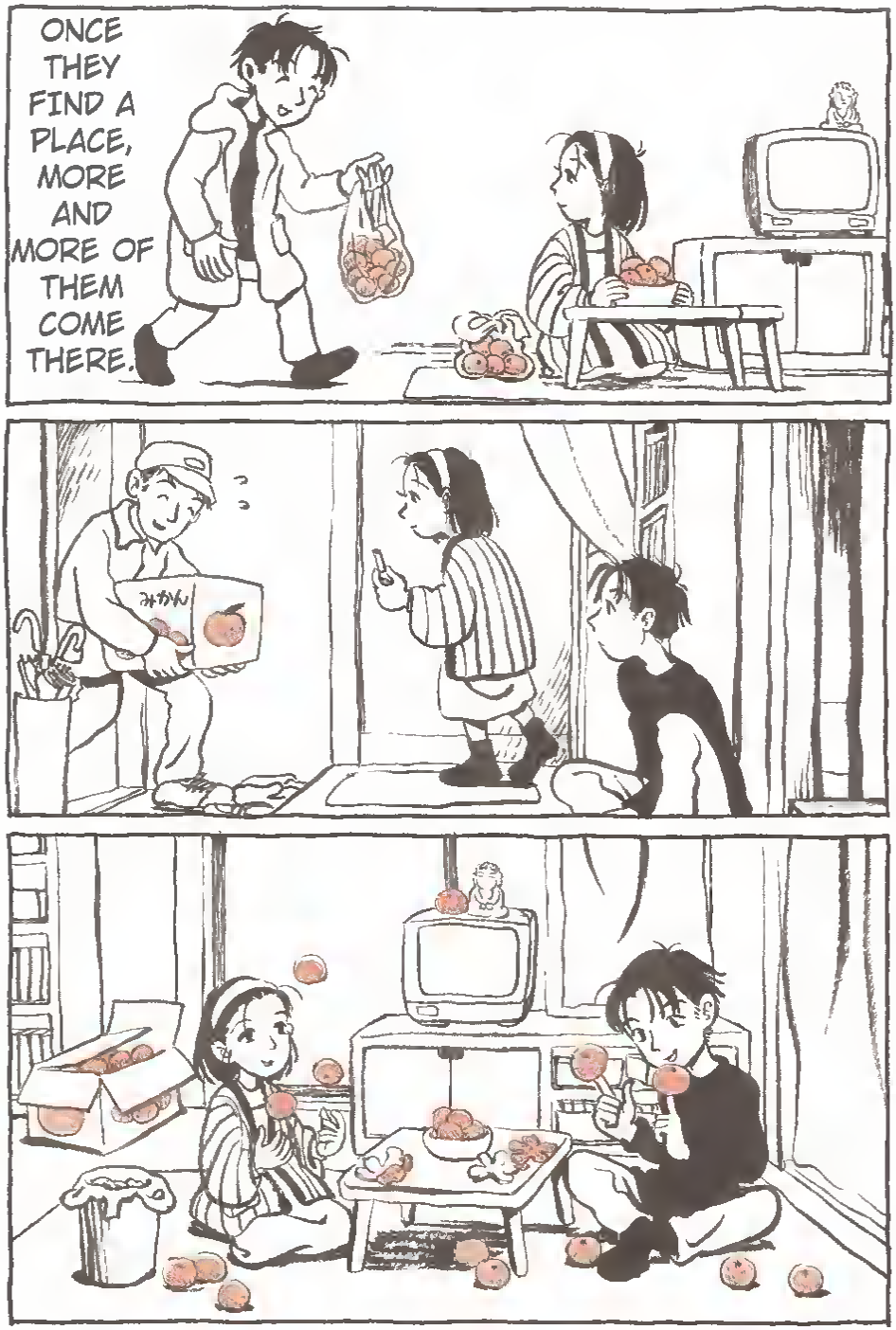
PEOPLE CAN'T MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION WHEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM NECESSITY, RIGHT?
YEP


PUBLIC BATH TICKETS
LAMP ALCOHOL

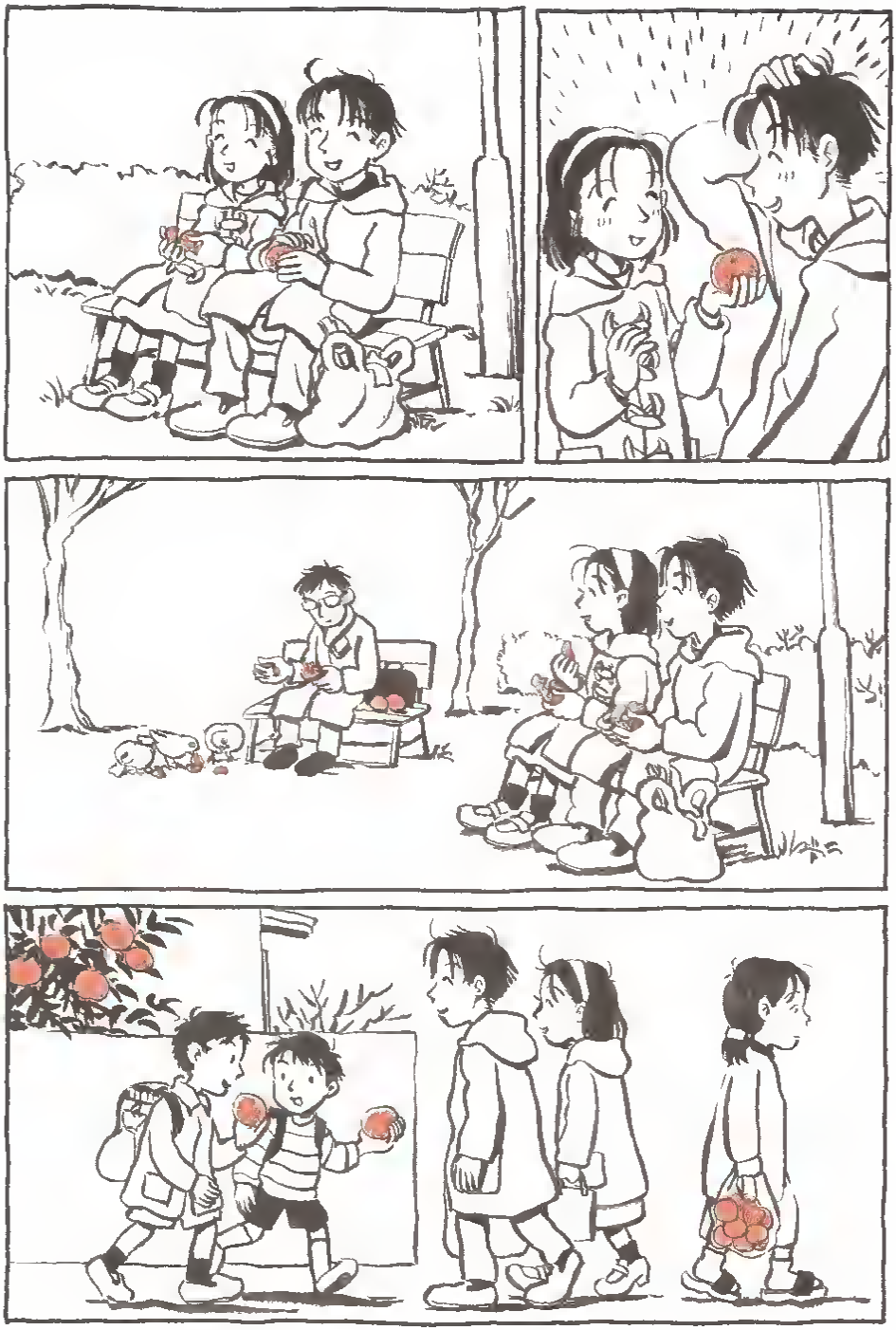
YEP! RATHER THAN SPENDING IT ON PUBLIC BATH TICKETS AND LAMP ALCOHOL !!
WE SHOULD HAVE PAID OUR GAS OR ELECTRICITY BILL WITH THAT MONEY!!

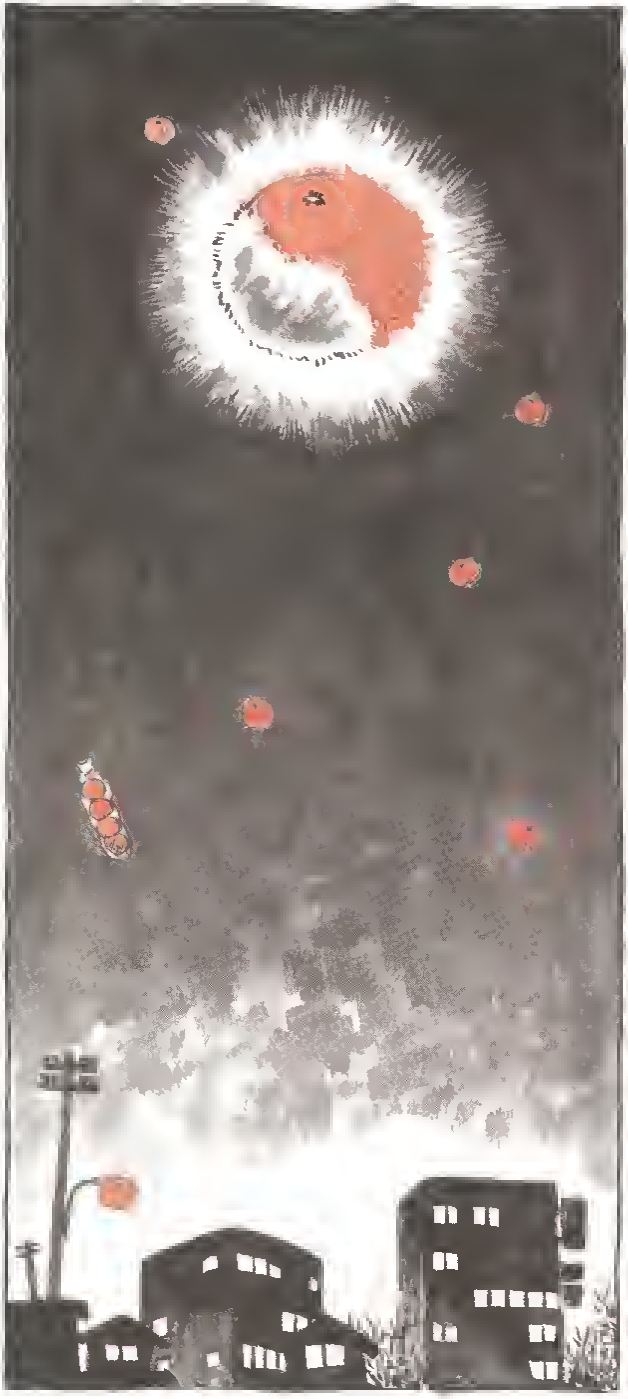

PUBLIC BATH
BUT SOSUKE

Country of Oranges
ORANGES MUST LOVE COMPANY.


ONCE THEY FIND A PLACE, MORE AND MORE OF THEM COME THERE.

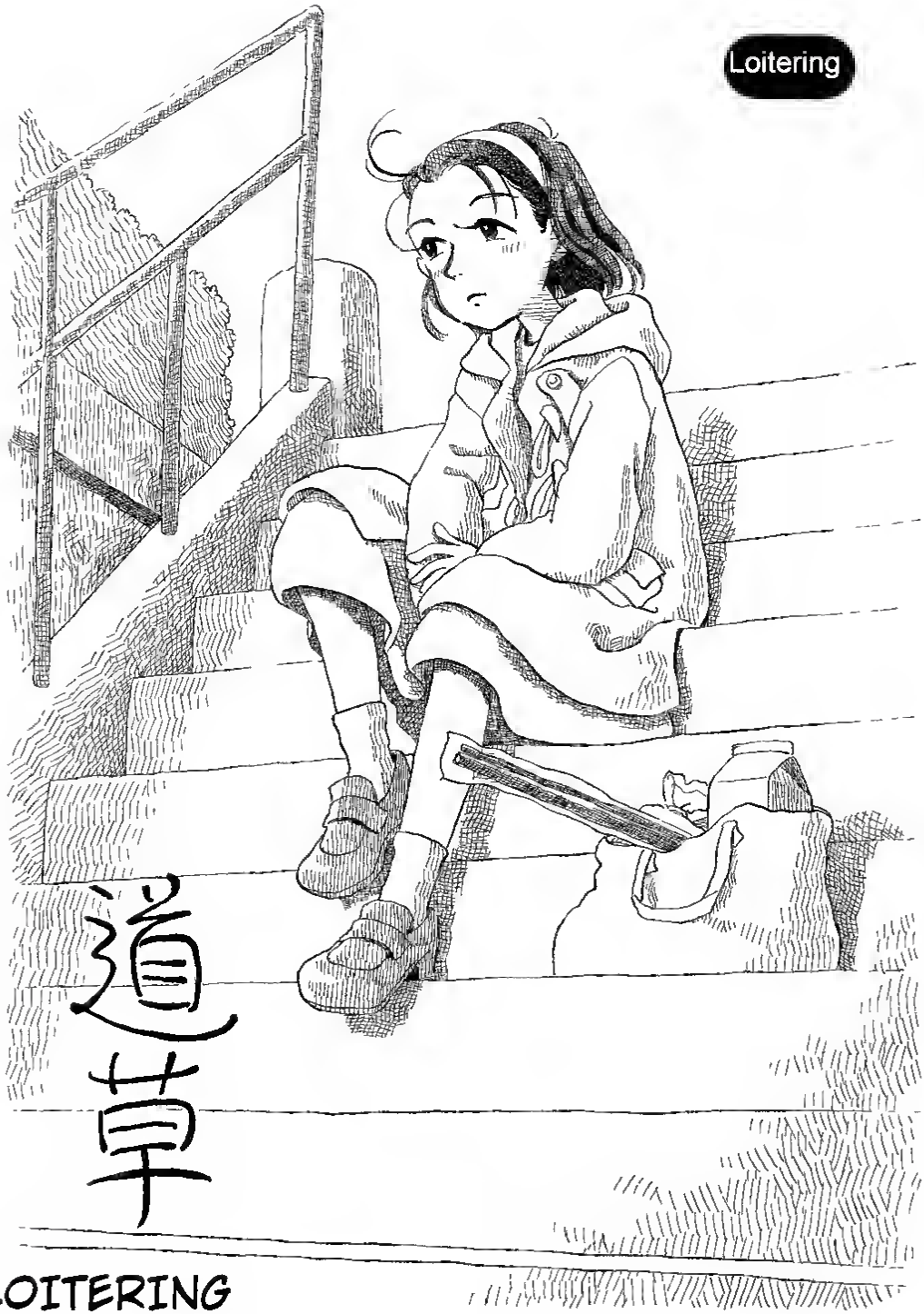
Jthanki
Jthanki





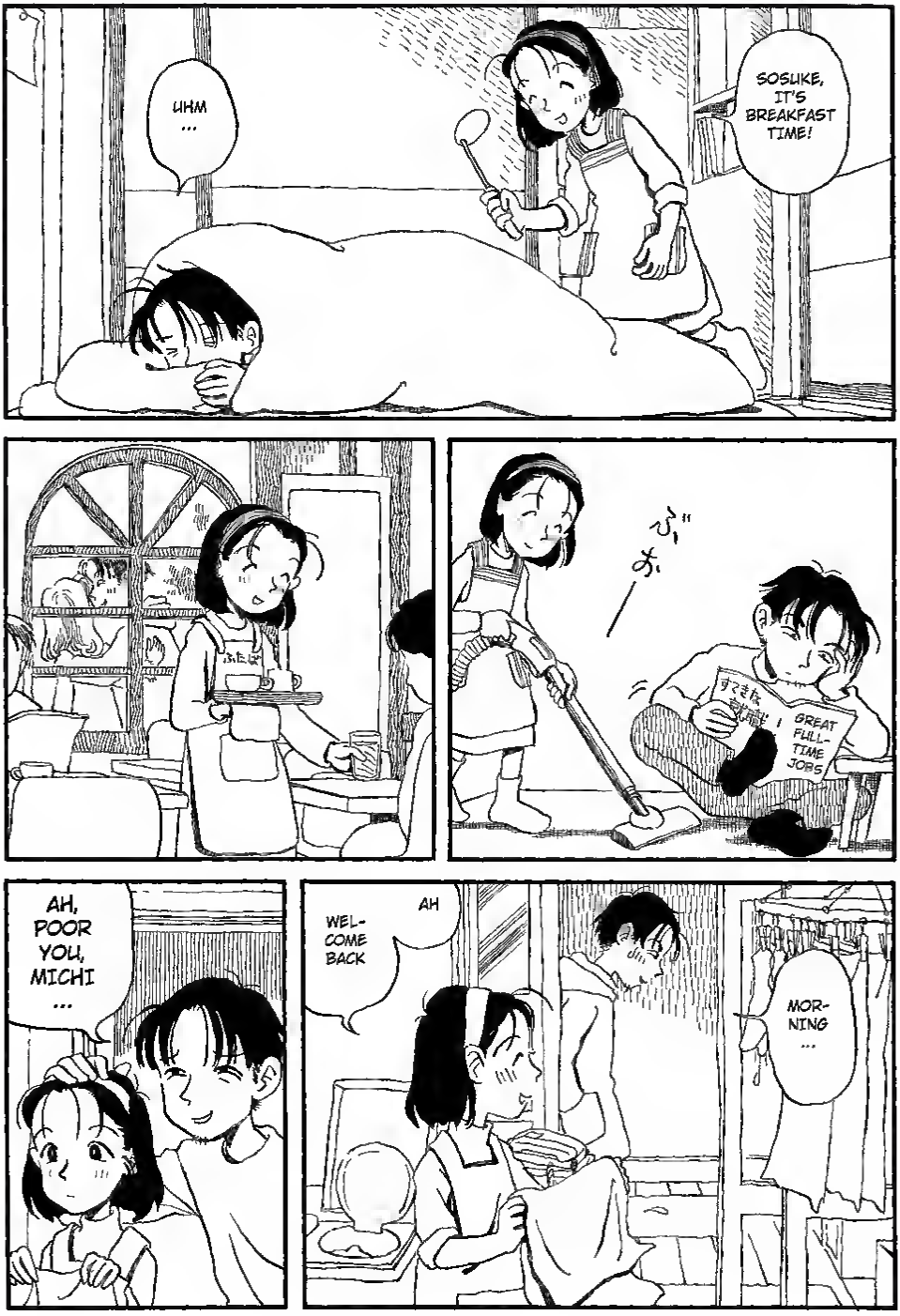
がたがた

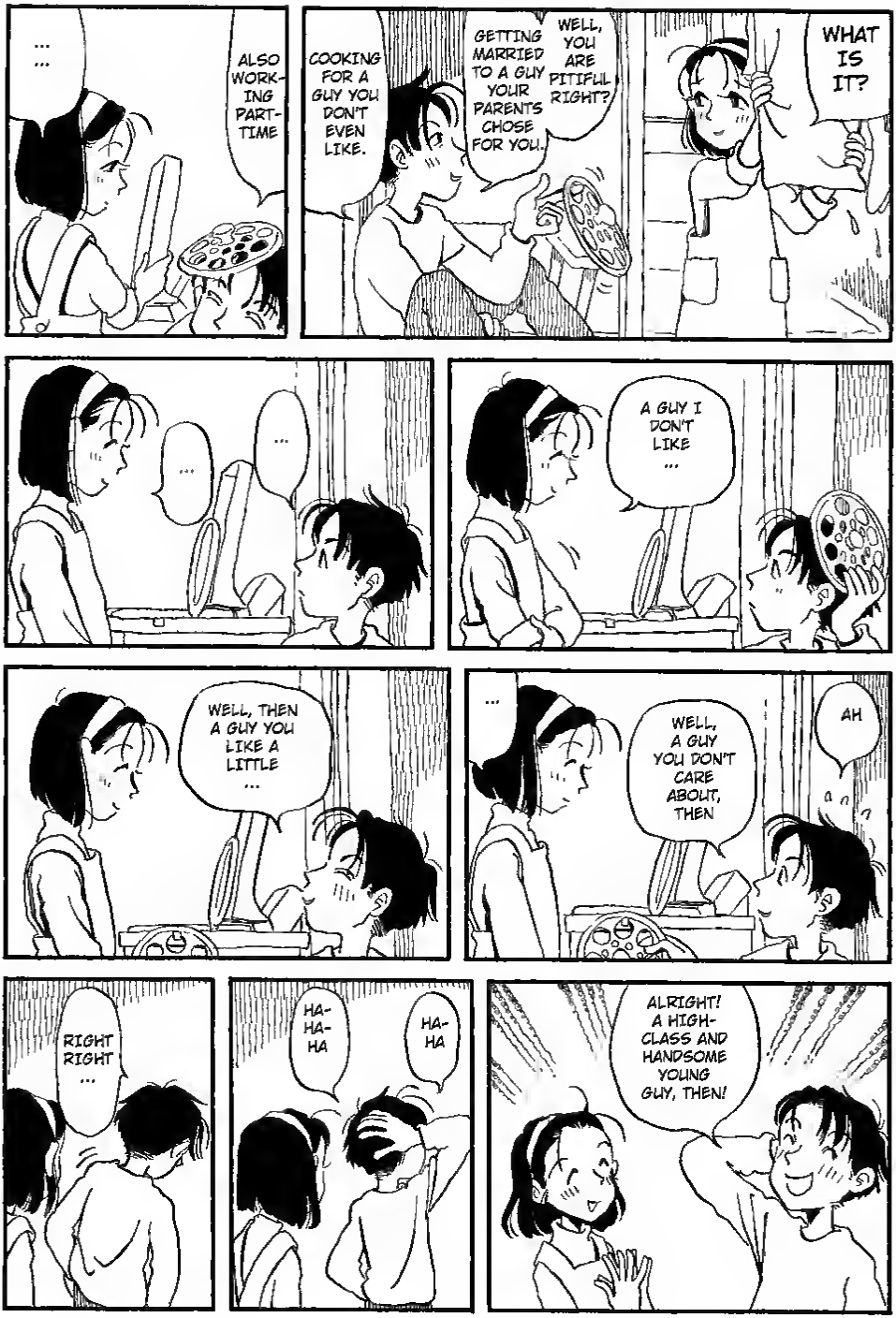
SOON IT WILL BE SPRING.
YEP.

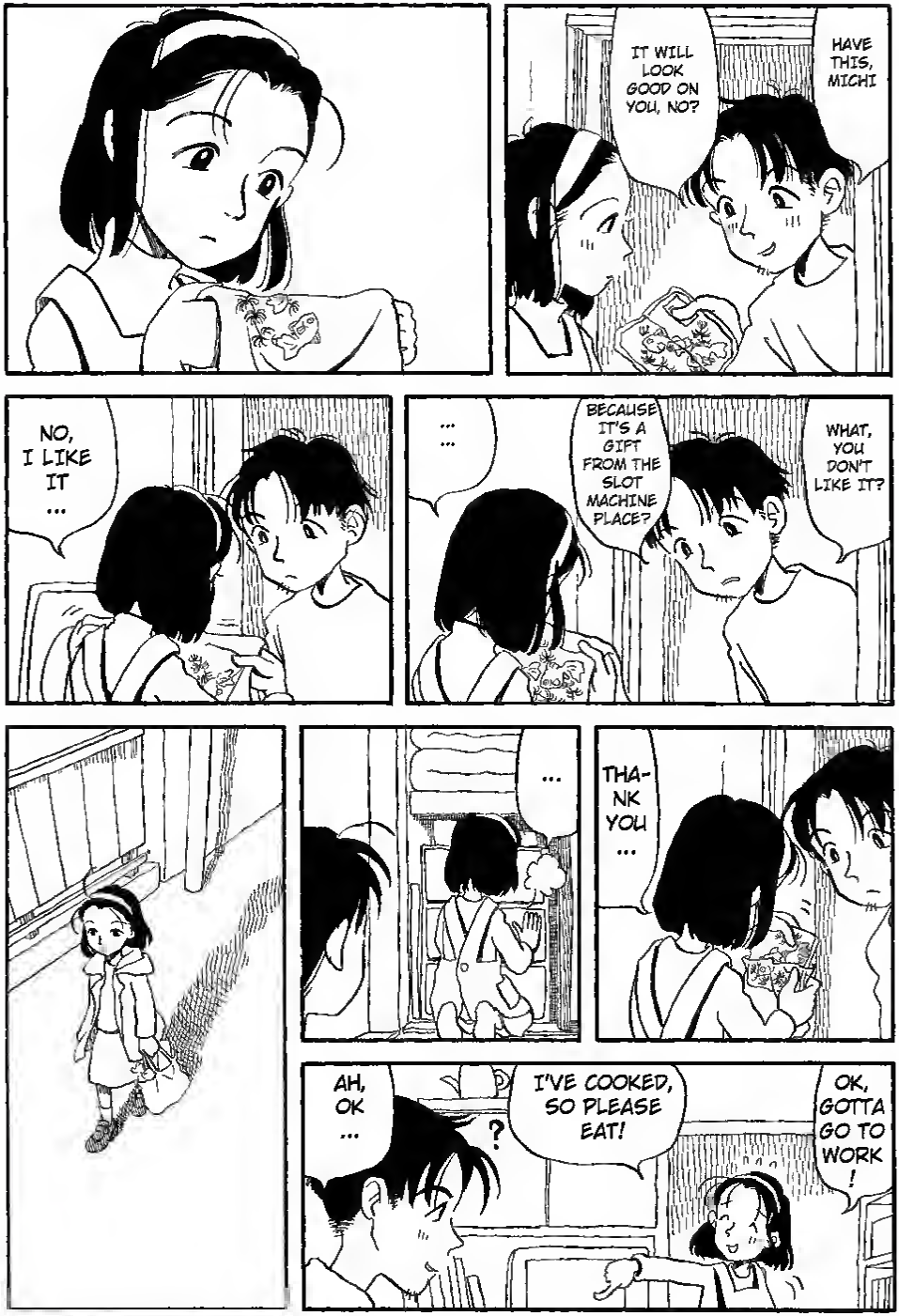


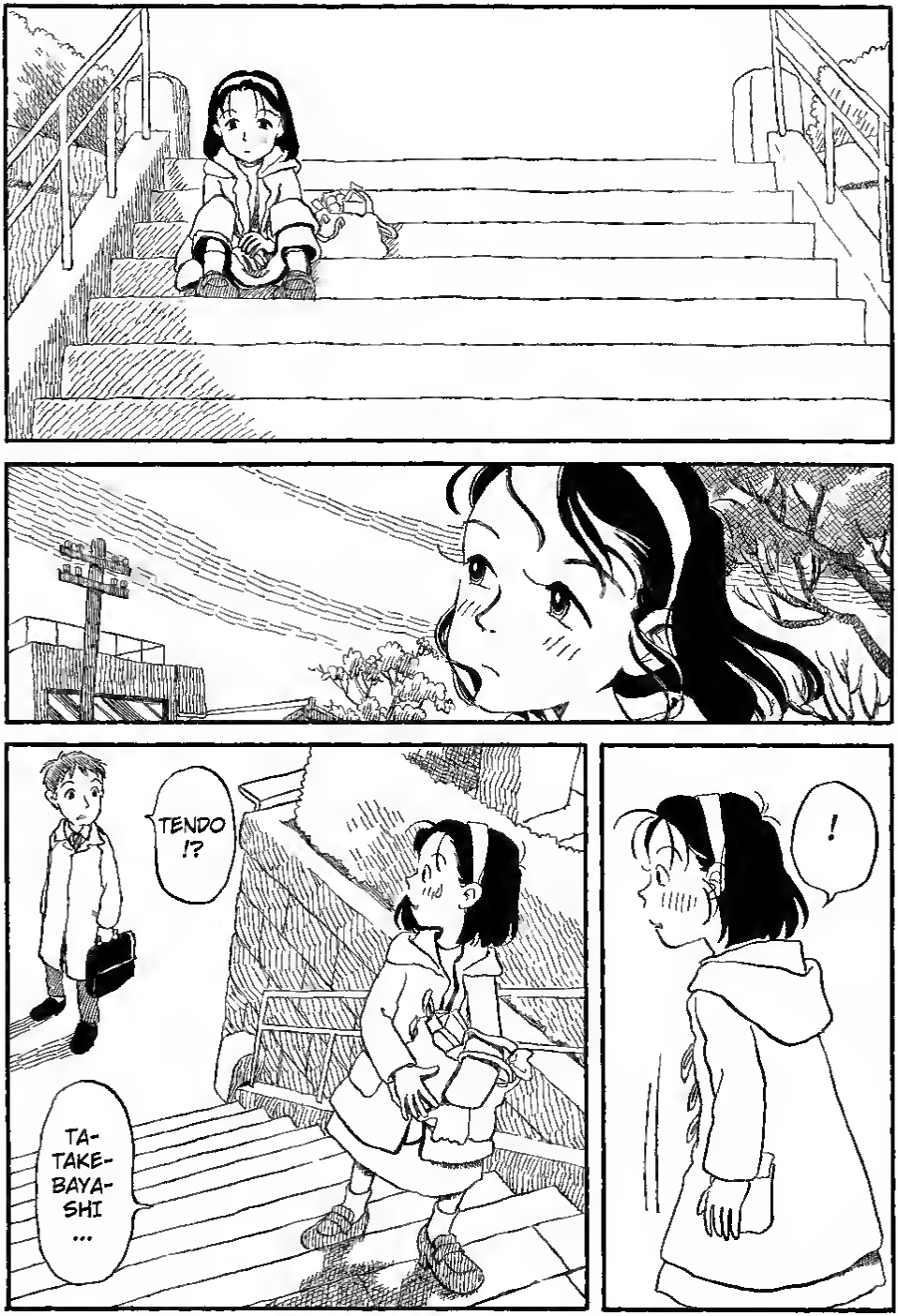
遁草

LOITERING

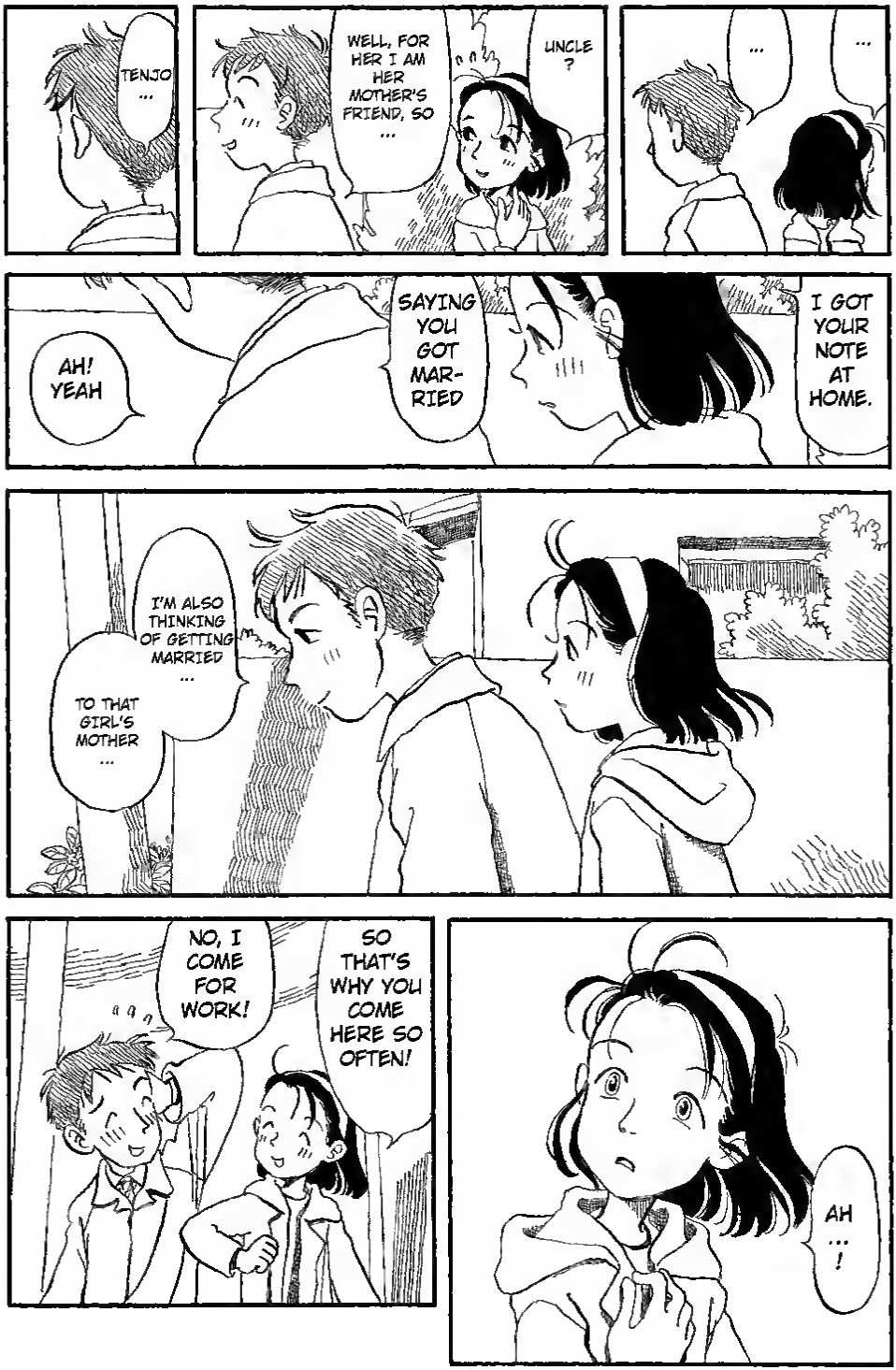

UHM ...
SOSUKE, IT'S BREAKFAST TIME!
GREAT FULL-TIME JOBS
AH, POOR YOU, MICHI ...
AH
WEL-COME BACK
MOR-NING ...

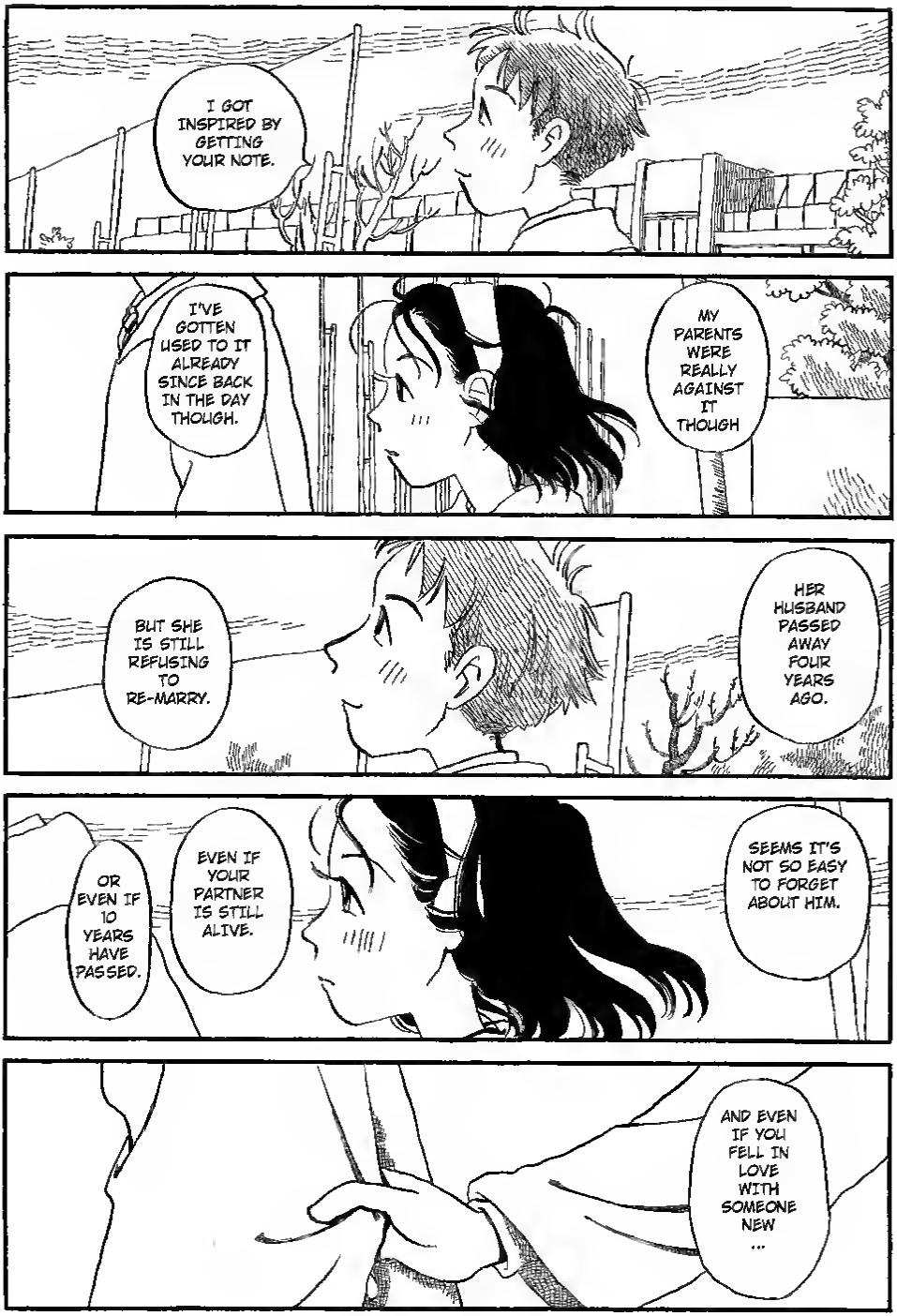

...
...
ALSO WORKING PART-TIME
COOKING FOR A GUY YOU DON'T EVEN LIKE.
GETTING MARRIED TO A GUY YOUR PARENTS CHOSE FOR YOU.
WELL, YOU ARE PITIFUL RIGHT?
WHAT IS IT?
...
...
A GUY I DON'T LIKE ...
WELL, THEN A GUY YOU LIKE A LITTLE ...
...
WELL, A GUY YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT, THEN
AH
RIGHT RIGHT ...
HA-HA-HA
HA-HA
ALRIGHT! A HIGH-CLASS AND HANDSOME YOUNG GUY, THEN!


IT WILL LOOK GOOD ON YOU, NO?
HAVE THIS, MICHI
NO, I LIKE IT ...
...
BECAUSE IT'S A GIFT FROM THE SLOT MACHINE PLACE?
WHAT, YOU DON'T LIKE IT?
...
THA-NK YOU ...
AH, OK ...
?
I'VE COOKED, SO PLEASE EAT!
OK, GOTTA GO TO WORK !


TENDO
!?
TA-
TAKE-
BAYA-
SHI
...
!

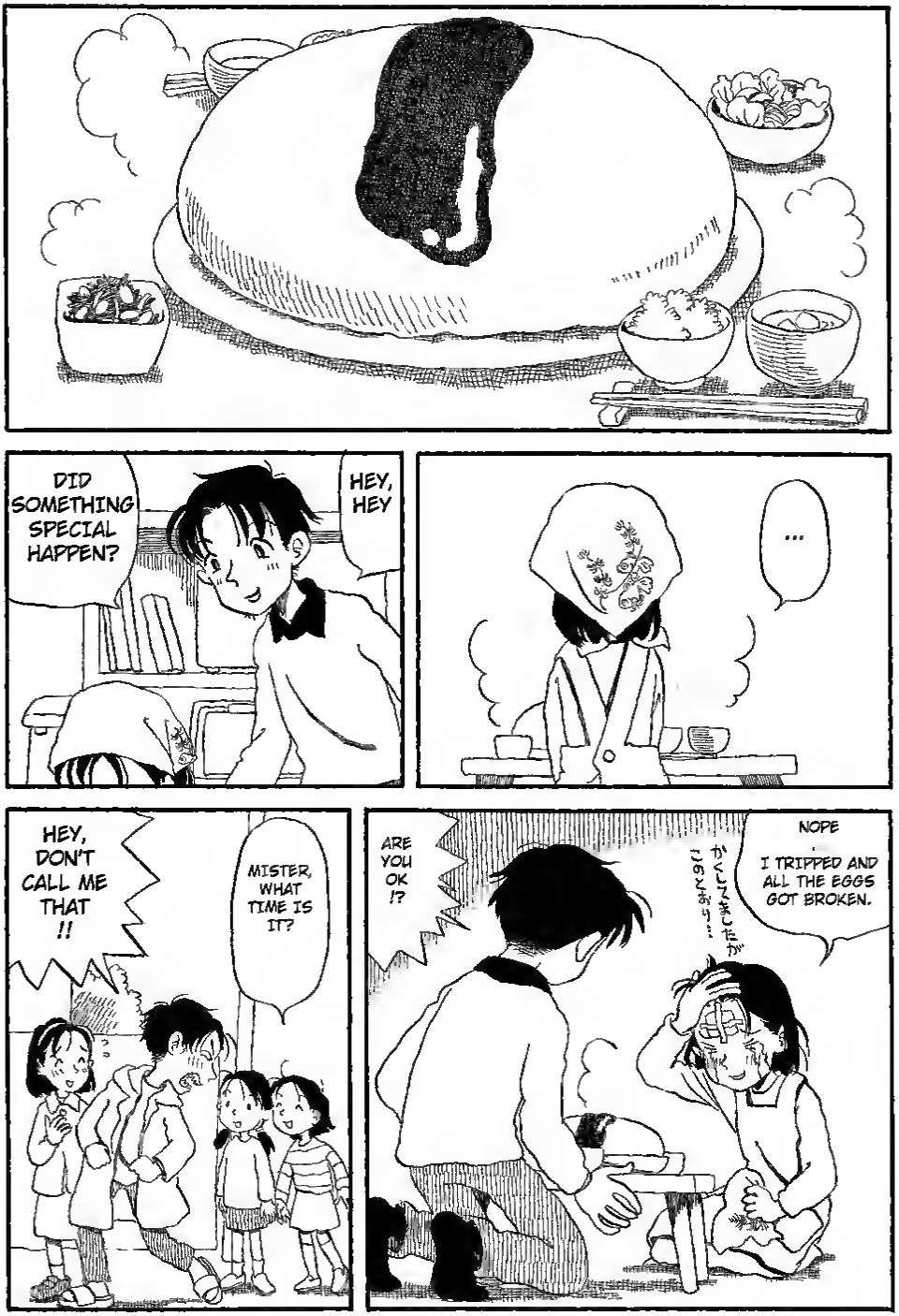
INDEED ...
LAST TIME WE MET HERE, SO I CAME AGAIN THINKING THAT I MIGHT SEE YOU.
AH, NOW YOU ARE OIMATSU, RIGHT?
YOU CAN CALL ME EITHER WAY.
...
...
YEP ...
IT'S A NICE PLACE
I COME HERE OFTEN
UNCLE!
HI!
AH!
WHAT A STRANGE BIRD!
YEP ...
...
...

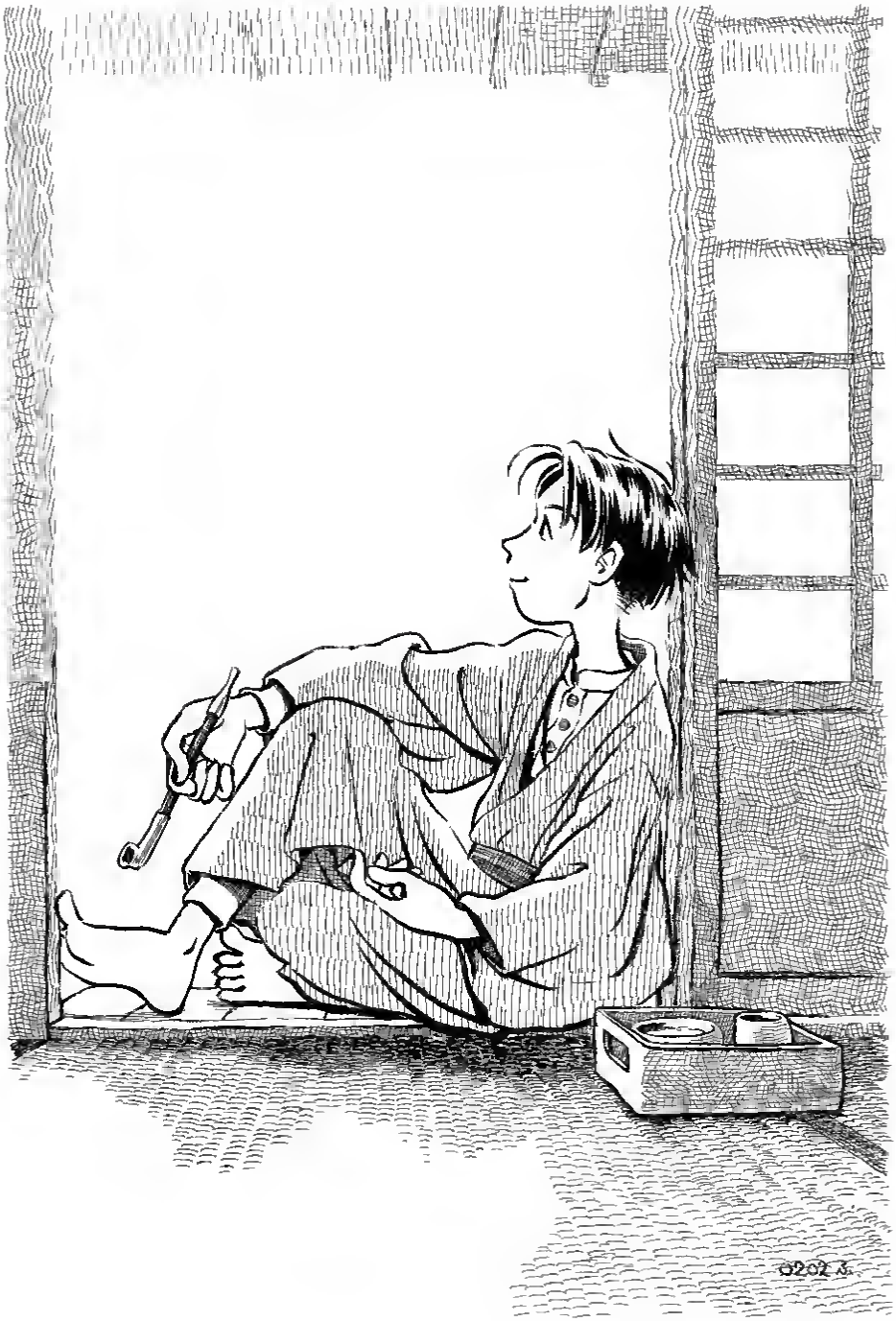

TENJO ...
WELL, FOR HER I AM HER MOTHER'S FRIEND, SO ...
UNCLE ?
...
...
I GOT YOUR NOTE AT HOME.
SAYING YOU GOT MAR-RIED
AH! YEAH
I'M ALSO THINKING OF GETTING MARRIED ...
TO THAT GIRL'S MOTHER ...
SO THAT'S WHY YOU COME HERE SO OFTEN!
NO, I COME FOR WORK!
AH ... !

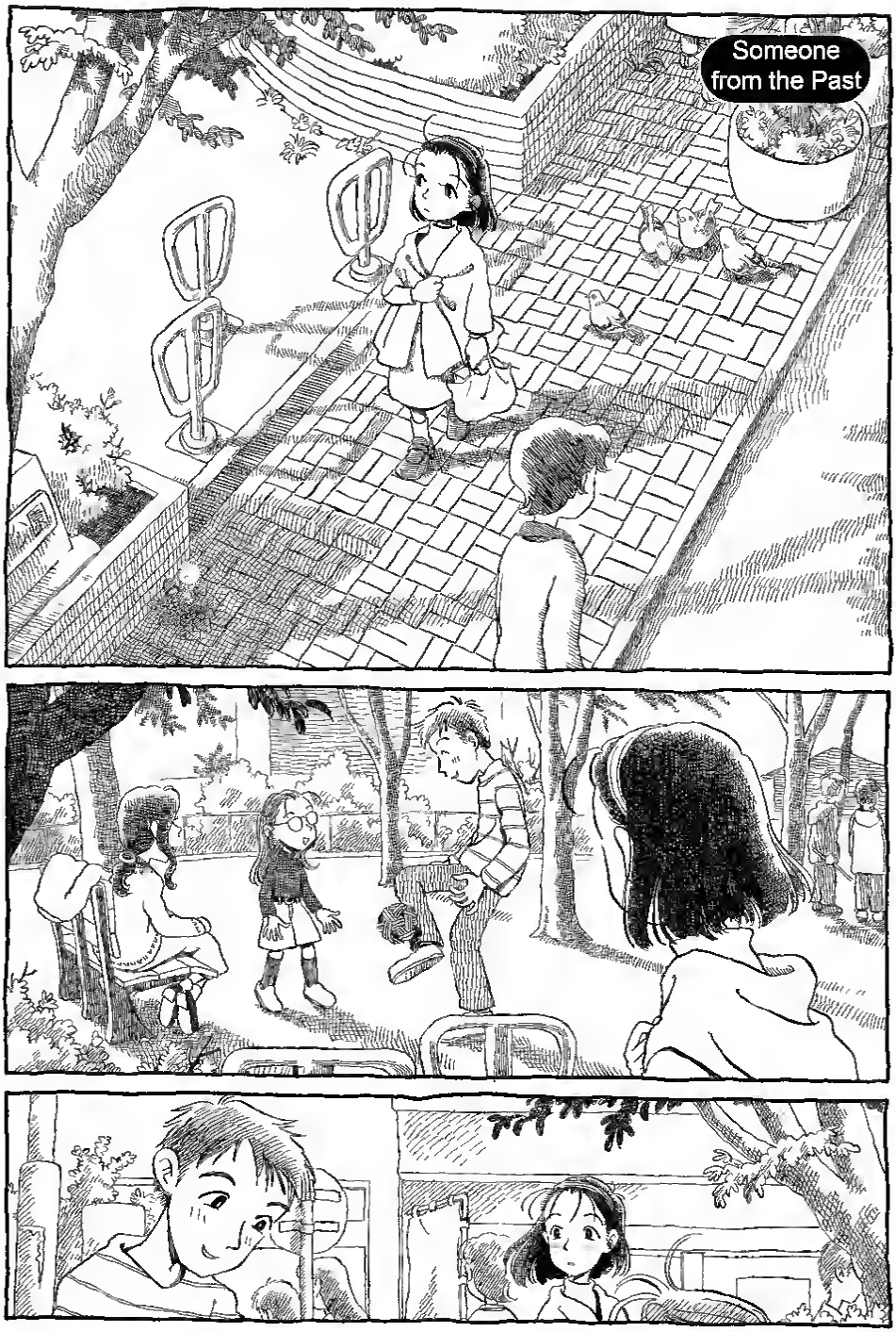

I GOT INSPIRED BY GETTING YOUR NOTE.
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT ALREADY SINCE BACK IN THE DAY THOUGH.
MY PARENTS WERE REALLY AGAINST IT THOUGH
BUT SHE IS STILL REFUSING TO RE-MARRY.
HER HUSBAND PASSED AWAY FOUR YEARS AGO.
OR EVEN IF 10 YEARS HAVE PASSED.
EVEN IF YOUR PARTNER IS STILL ALIVE.
SEEMS IT'S NOT SO EASY TO FORGET ABOUT HIM.
AND EVEN IF YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE NEW ...

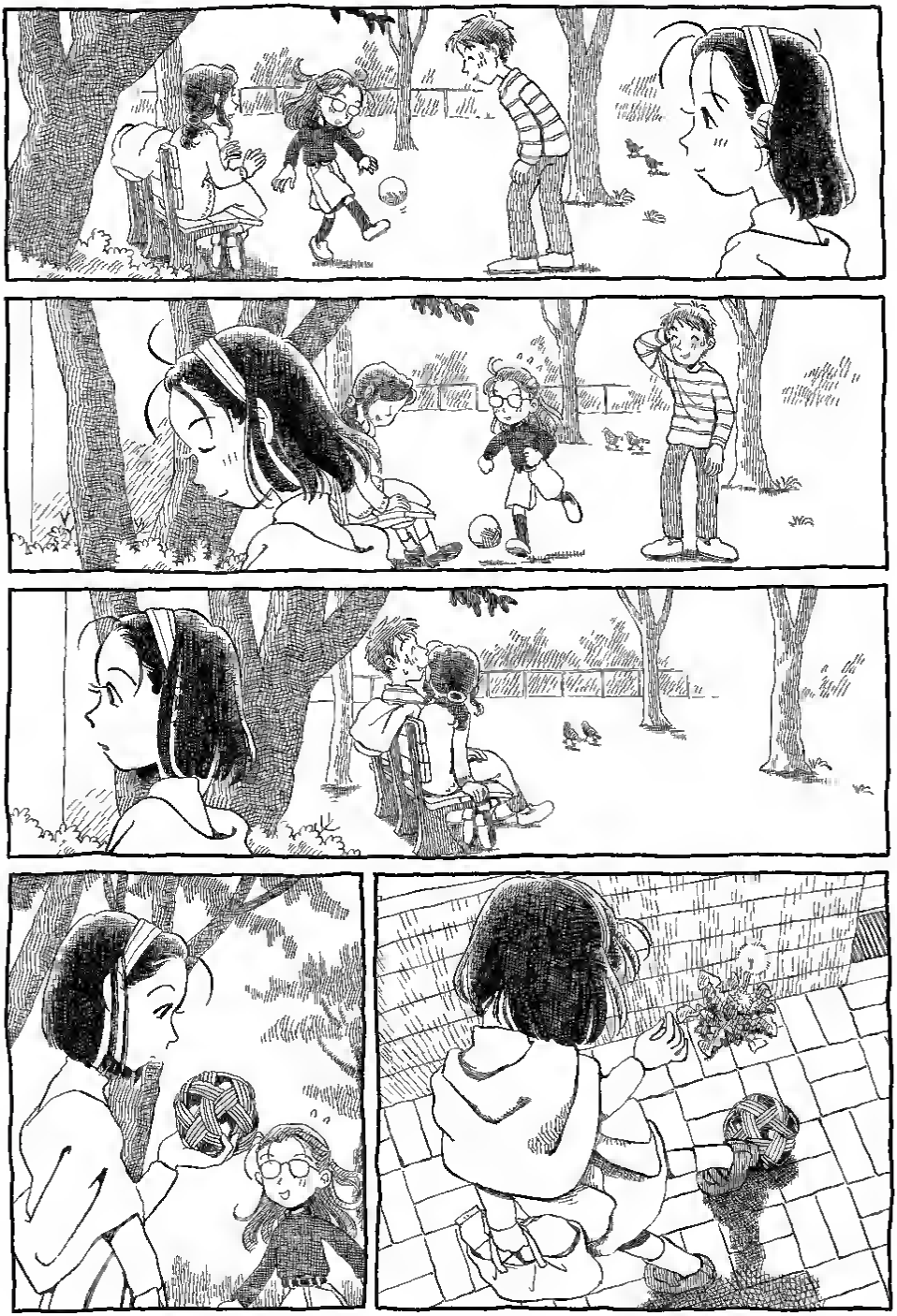
NOPE.
THANK YOU, BUT WAS IT AN ACCIDENT ...
THANK YOU FOR SEEING ME ...
WAITING FOR YOU ...
WAITING FOR THIS DAY...
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU ALL THIS TIME.
IT MUST BE BECAUSE I MET THAT PERSON ..
YOU'VE GROWN BEAUTIFUL.
TAKE-BAYA-SHI ...

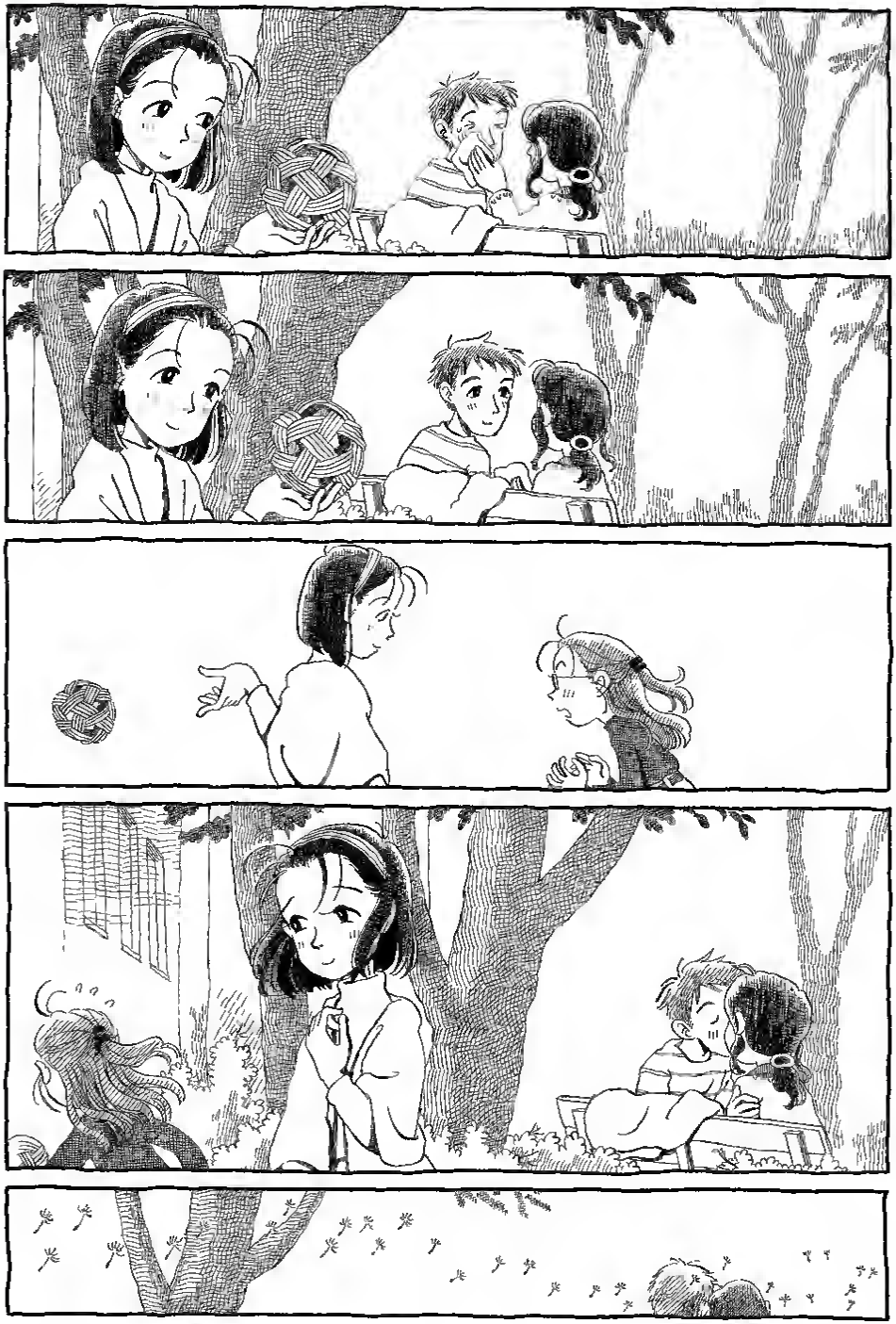
IT'S OK FOR ME TO BE HAPPY AS WELL, RIGHT?


DID SOMETHING SPECIAL HAPPEN?
HEY, HEY
...
HEY, DON'T CALL ME THAT !!
MISTER, WHAT TIME IS IT?
ARE YOU OK !?
NOPE
I TRIPPED AND ALL THE EGGS GOT BROKEN.



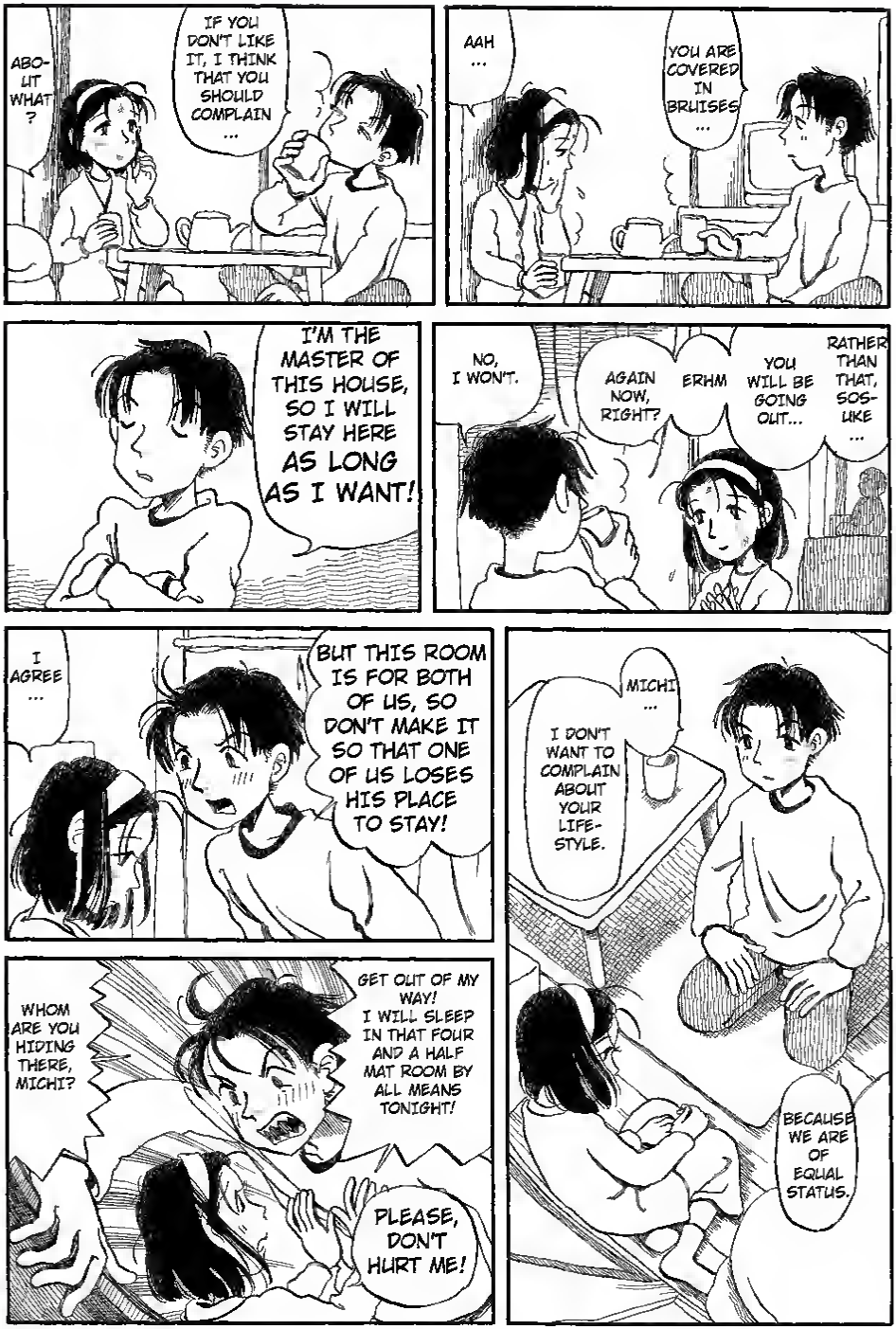

Someone
from the Past

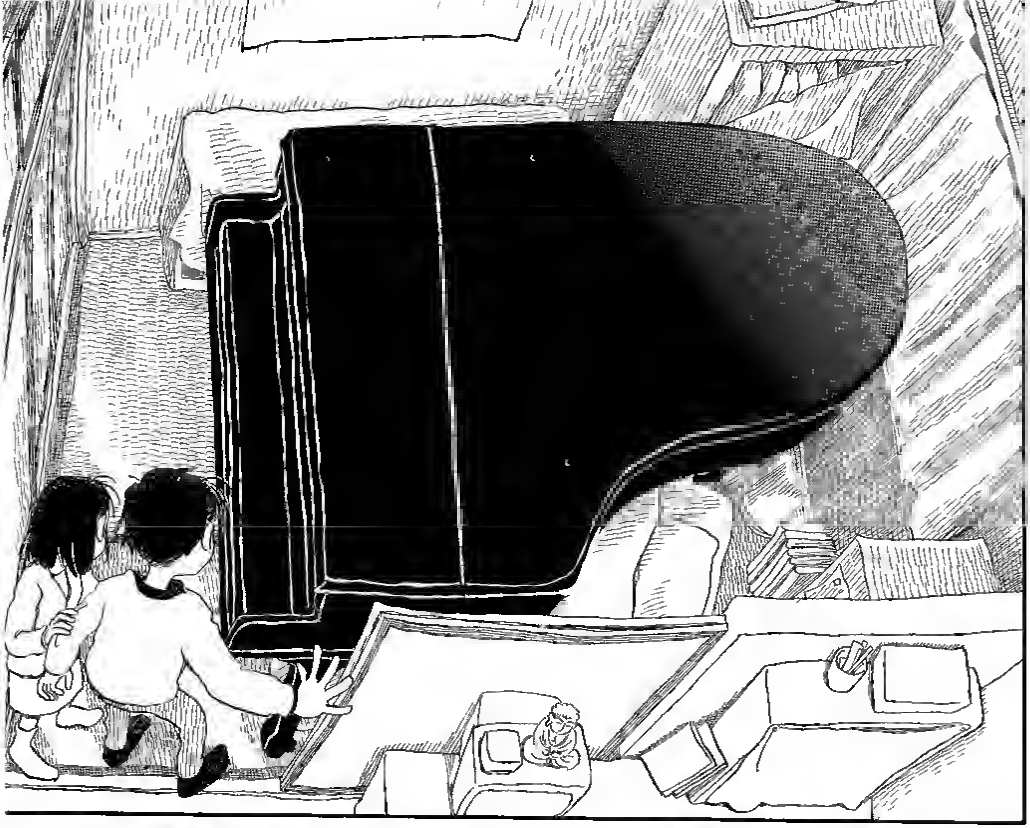


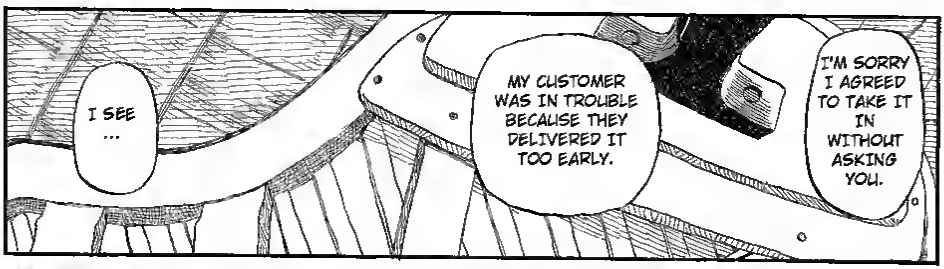


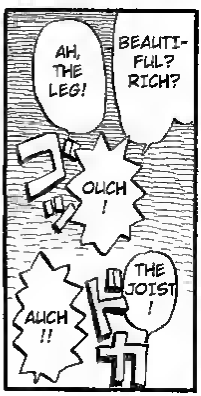
The Four and a Half Mat Guest
WERE YOU SLEEPING?
SOSUKE, YOU ARE BACK ...
YOU NEVER USE THE CHAIN.
HEY, MICHI
WH-WHAT?
WHAT, WHAT?
HAHAHA, BUT THERE IS NOTHING TO TAKE HERE ...
I'M AFRAID OF THIEVES, SO ...
...
AH, YEAH, RIGHT ...
YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES, RIGHT?
HERE YOU GO.

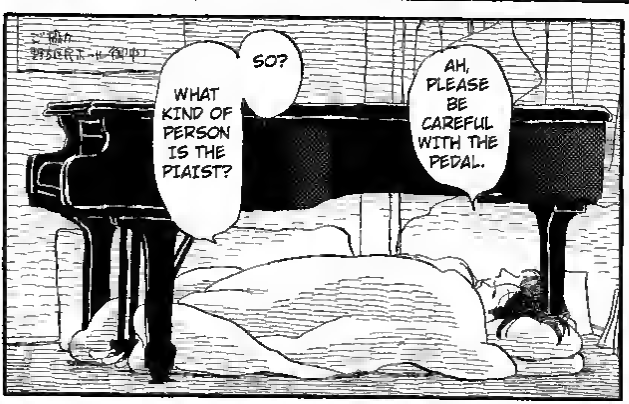
PIANO
CALL US ANYTIME
090-4571-
ゴソゴソ
ERHM, SOSUKE
...
AH, YEAH
DO YOU WANT SOME TEA?


ABO-UT WHAT ?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, I THINK THAT YOU SHOULD COMPLAIN ...
AAH ...
YOU ARE COVERED IN BRUISES ...
I'M THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE, SO I WILL STAY HERE AS LONG AS I WANT!
NO, I WON'T.
AGAIN NOW, RIGHT?
ERHM
YOU WILL BE GOING OUT...
RATHER THAN THAT, SOS-LIKE ...
I AGREE ...
BUT THIS ROOM IS FOR BOTH OF US, SO DON'T MAKE IT SO THAT ONE OF US LOSES HIS PLACE TO STAY!
MICHI ...
I DON'T WANT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR LIFE-STYLE.
BECAUSE WE ARE OF EQUAL STATUS.
WHOM ARE YOU HIDING THERE, MICHI?
GET OUT OF MY WAY! I WILL SLEEP IN THAT FOUR AND A HALF MAT ROOM BY ALL MEANS TONIGHT!
PLEASE, DON'T HURT ME!

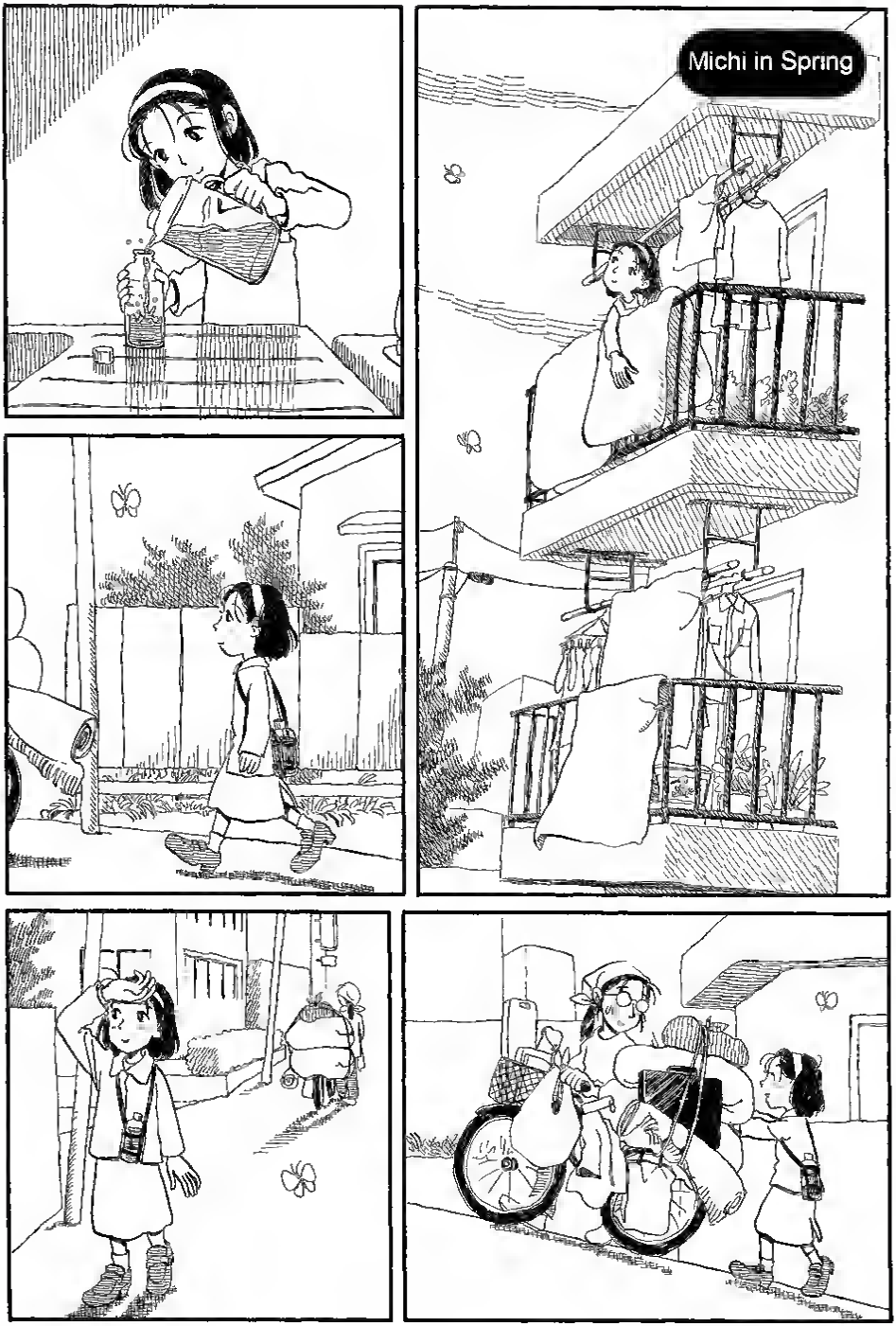


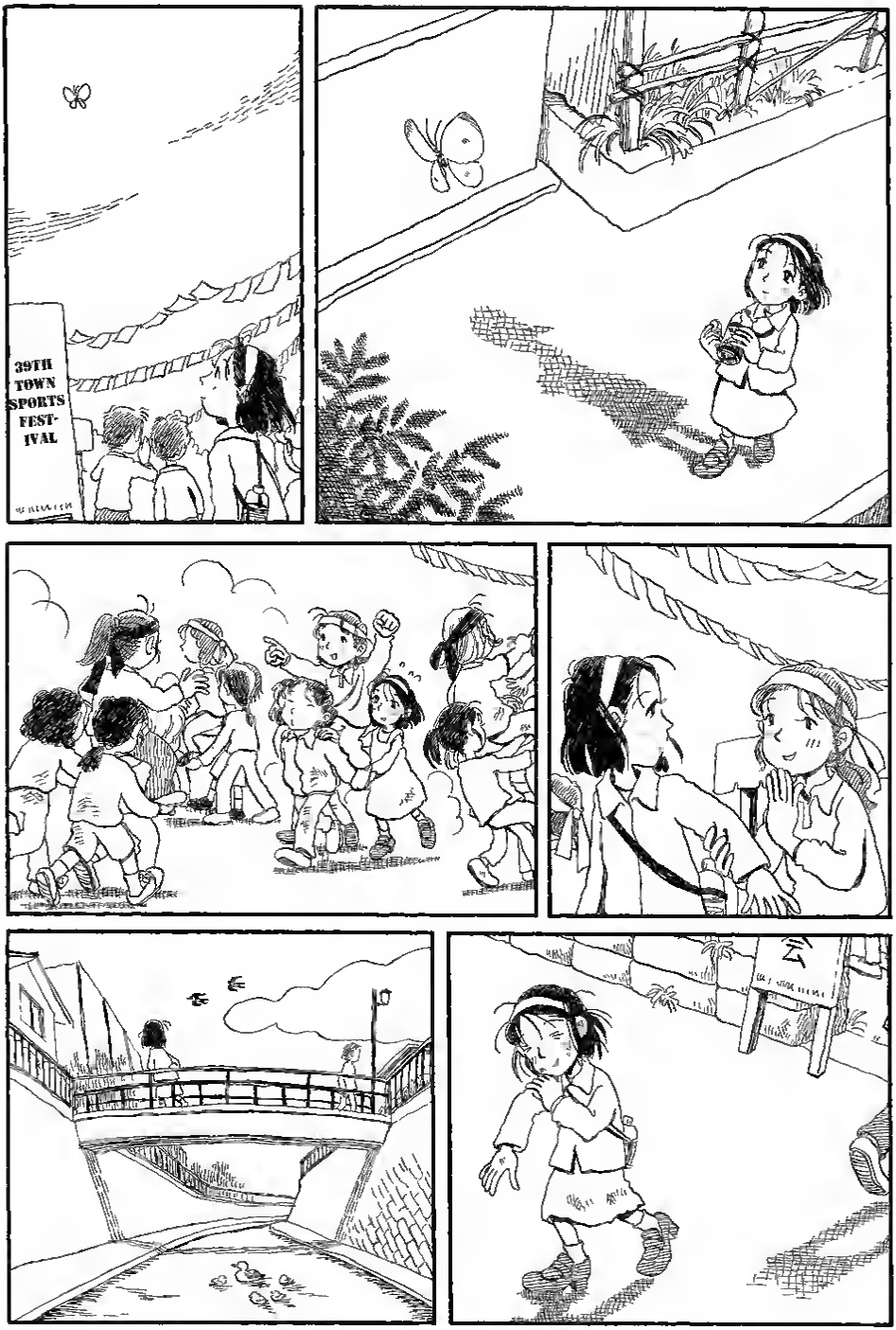

I SEE ...
MY CUSTOMER WAS IN TROUBLE BECAUSE THEY DELIVERED IT TOO EARLY.
I'M SORRY I AGREED TO TAKE IT IN WITHOUT ASKING YOU.

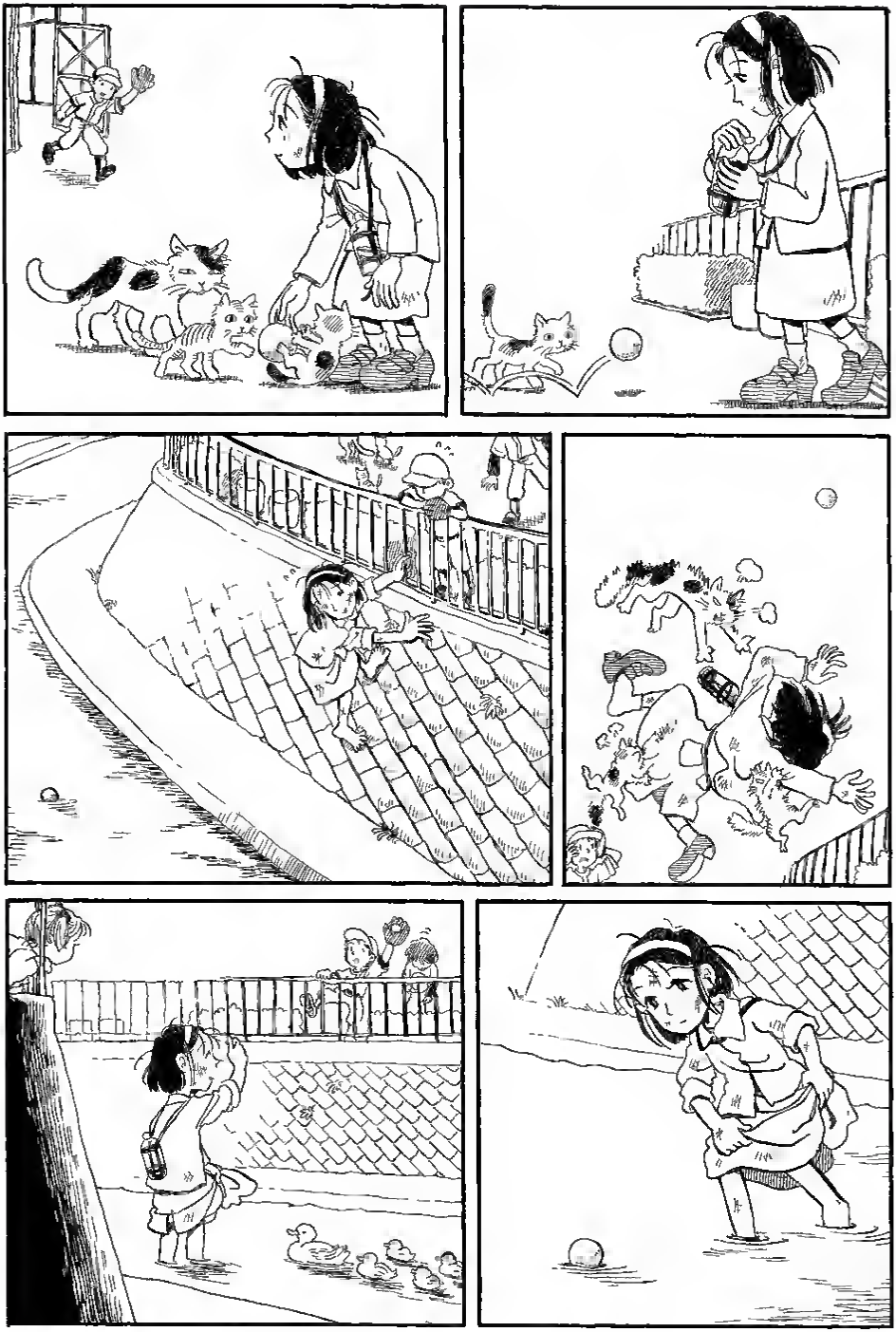

AH, THE LEG!
BEAUTIFUL? RICH?
OUCH!
AUCH!!
THE JOIST!

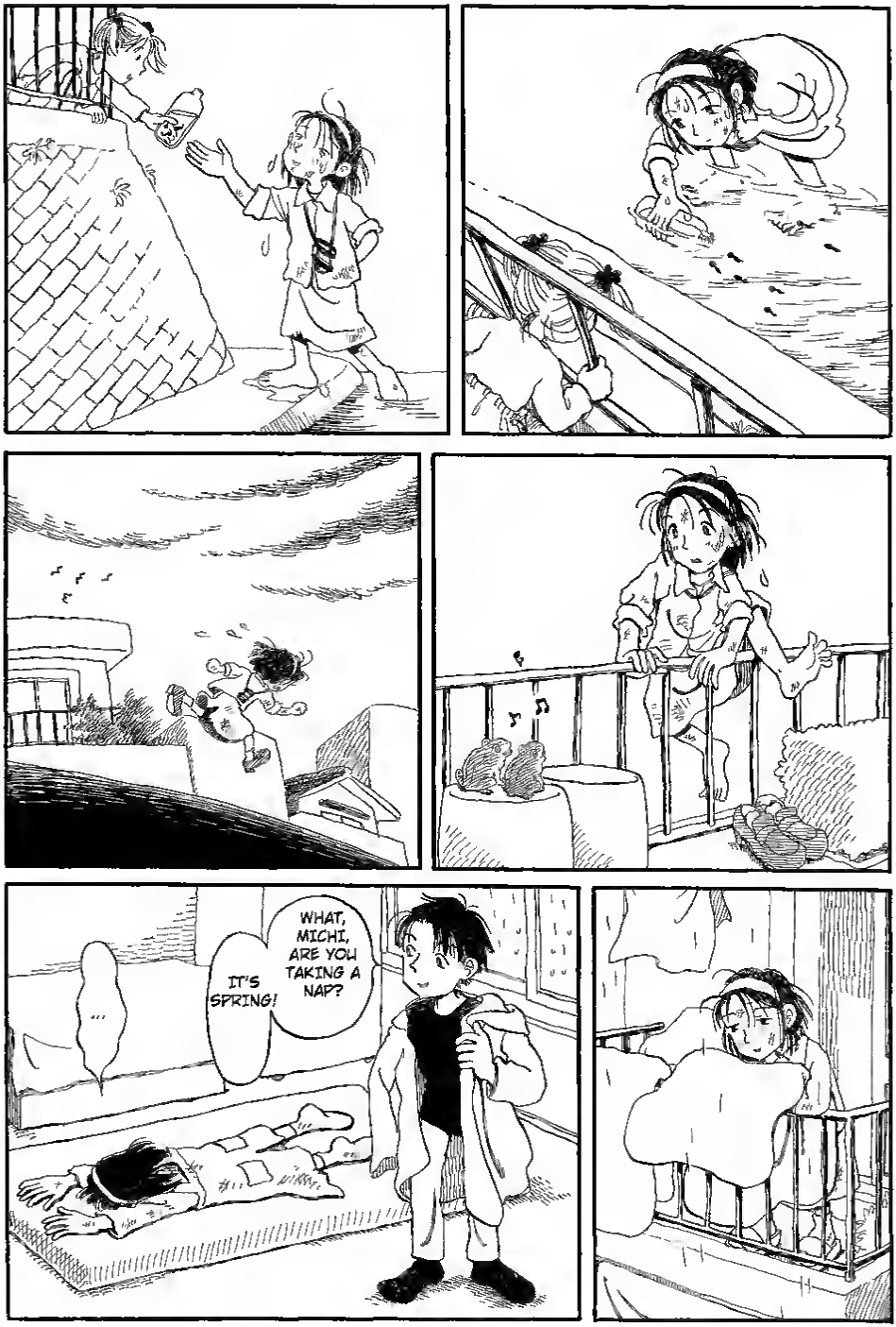

SO?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS THE PIAIST?
AH, PLEASE BE CAREFUL WITH THE PEDAL.

I'M SORRY I SPOKE TOO MUCH WITHOUT ASKING YOU ABOUT IT ...


Michi in Spring

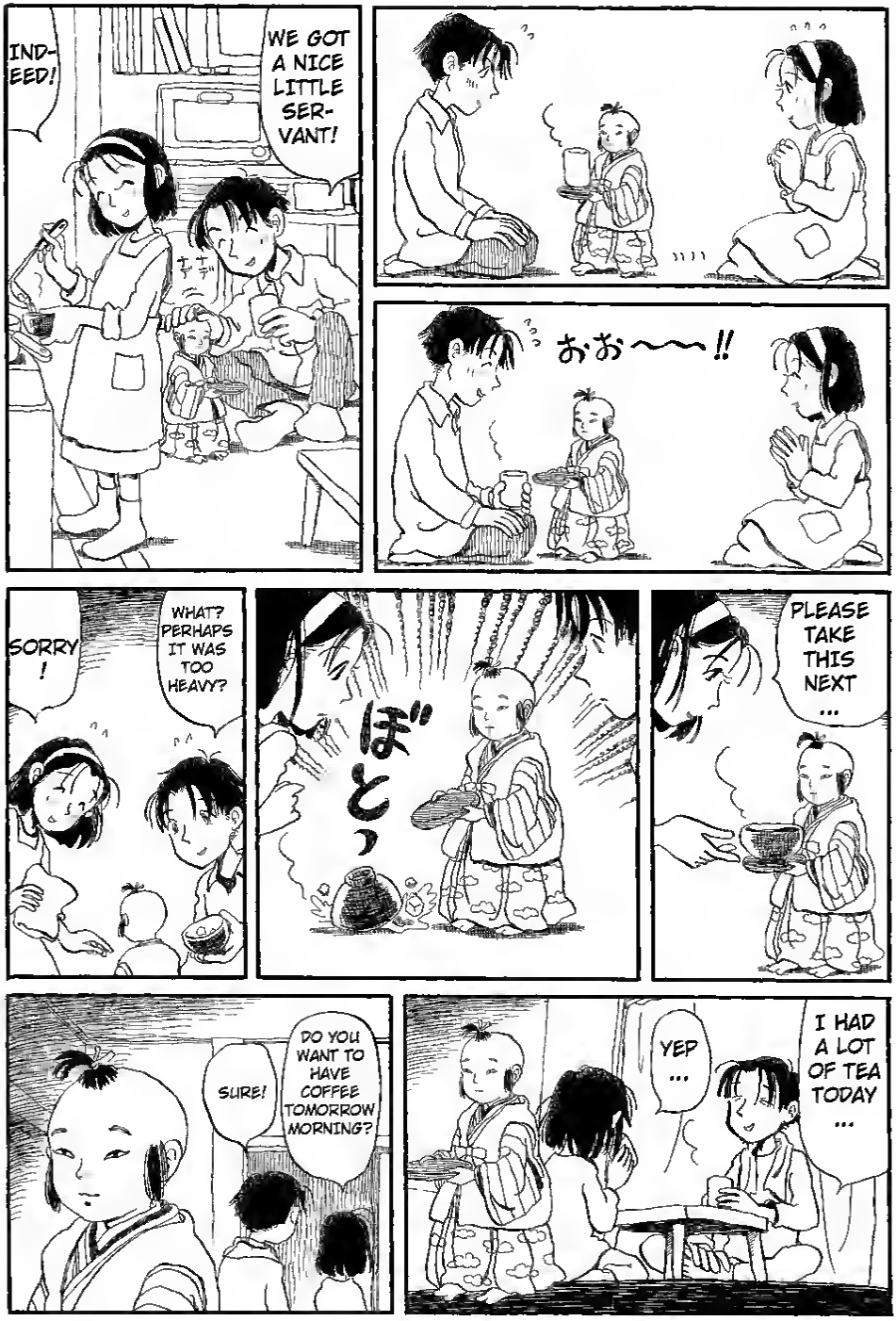

39TH
TOWN
SPORTS
FEST-
IVAL

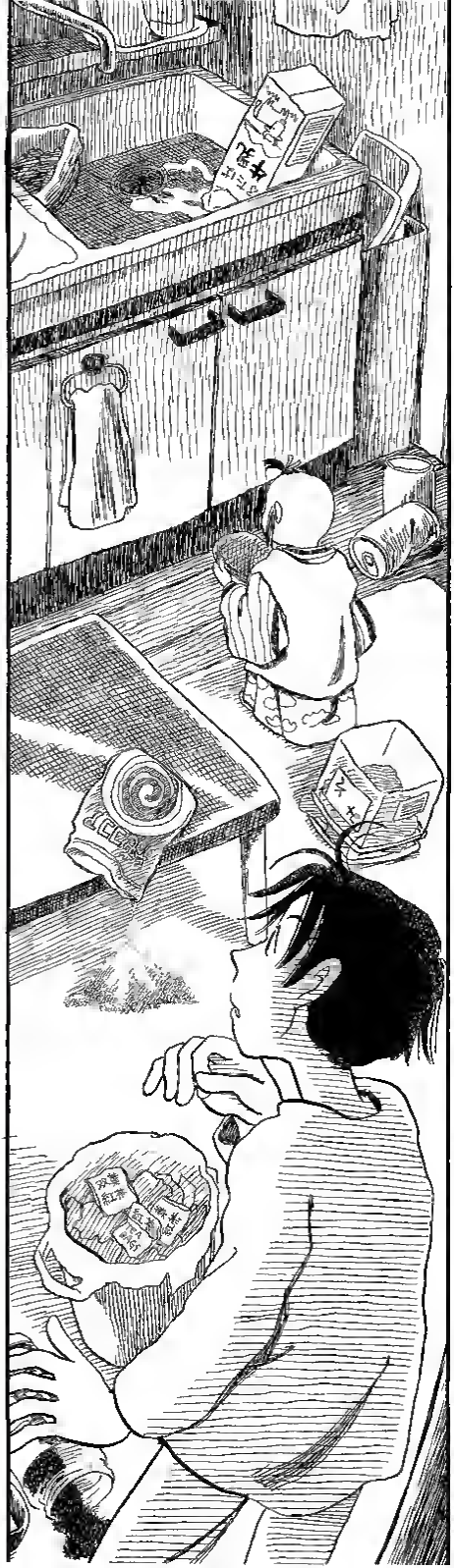


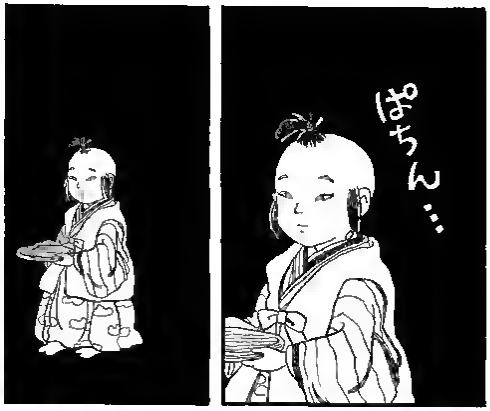

...
IT'S SPRING!
WHAT, MICHI, ARE YOU TAKING A NAP?

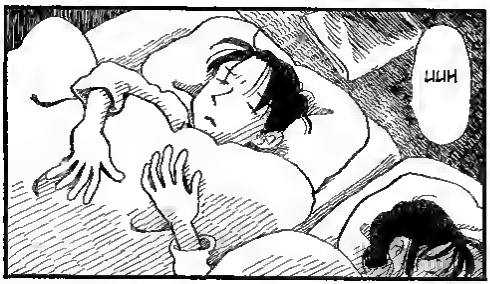
長崎チャンポン
将
あぶない
とびだし
そば
うどん
あさひ

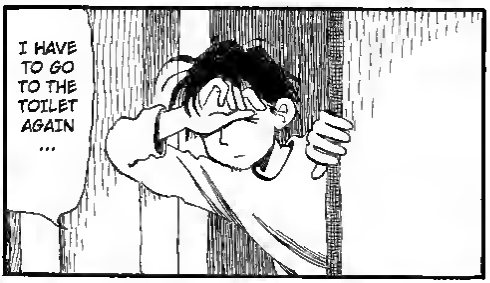
Tea Serving Hell
TIQUES SHOP
DID YOU BUY A DOLL?
YEP ...
SOMEHOW OUR EYES MET ...
AH

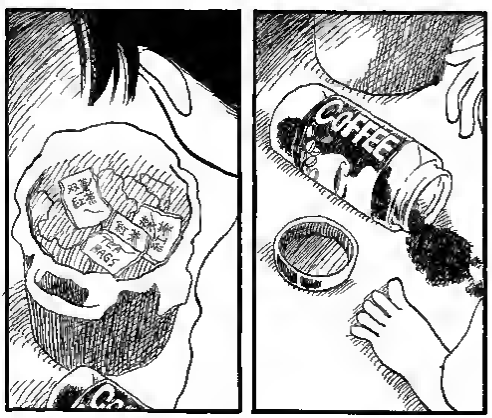

WE GOT A NICE LITTLE SER-VANT!
IND-EED!
おお〜〜!!
PLEASE TAKE THIS NEXT ...
ぼとっ
WHAT? PERHAPS IT WAS TOO HEAVY?
SORRY!
I HAD A LOT OF TEA TODAY ...
YEP ...
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE COFFEE TOMORROW MORNING?
SURE!




ぽちん…


HMM


I HAVE TO GO TO THE TOILET AGAIN …


COFFEE

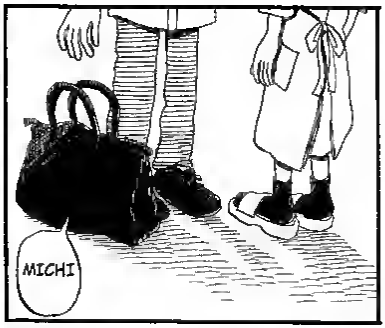
WELCOME, SONOKO.
...
...
...
I HAVE THE MAY BLUES AS WELL SINCE STARTING WORK...
THEN IT'S FINE I GUESS ...
HE HAD TOO MUCH TEA YESTERDAY, SO HE DIDN'T SLEEP WELL.
...
...
...
SOSUKE ... YOU LOOK TIRED SOMEHOW ...
PLUS MY JOB IS ONLY SERVING TEA, SO ...
GOOD LUCK AT WORK!
YES! OF COURSE! TAKE IT PLEASE!
AH, CAN I REALLY HAVE THIS NICE ANTIQUE DOLL?

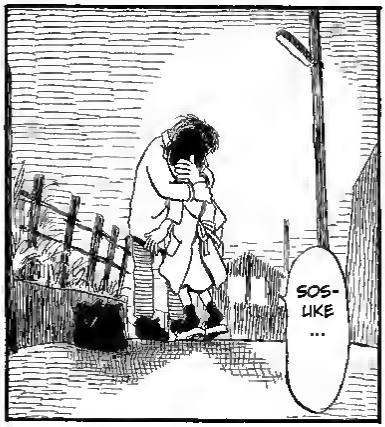
THIS WAS 8 YEARS AGO.
THIS WAS 16 YEARS AGO.
THIS WAS 24 YEARS AGO.
AND THIS WAS 10 DAYS AGO
Sosuke and the Broom

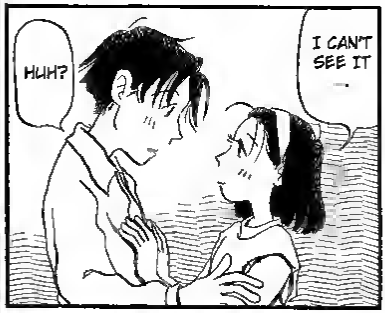
 *THE CAFE WHERE MICHI WORKS

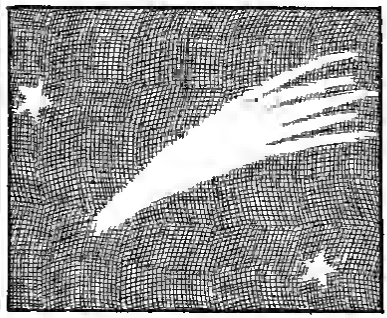
...
WELCOME BACK ...
...
OF COURSE NOT ...
HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING HERE?

WHEN WILL THAT COMET COME AGAIN?
WELL ABOUT 8 YEARS LATER, I GUESS ...

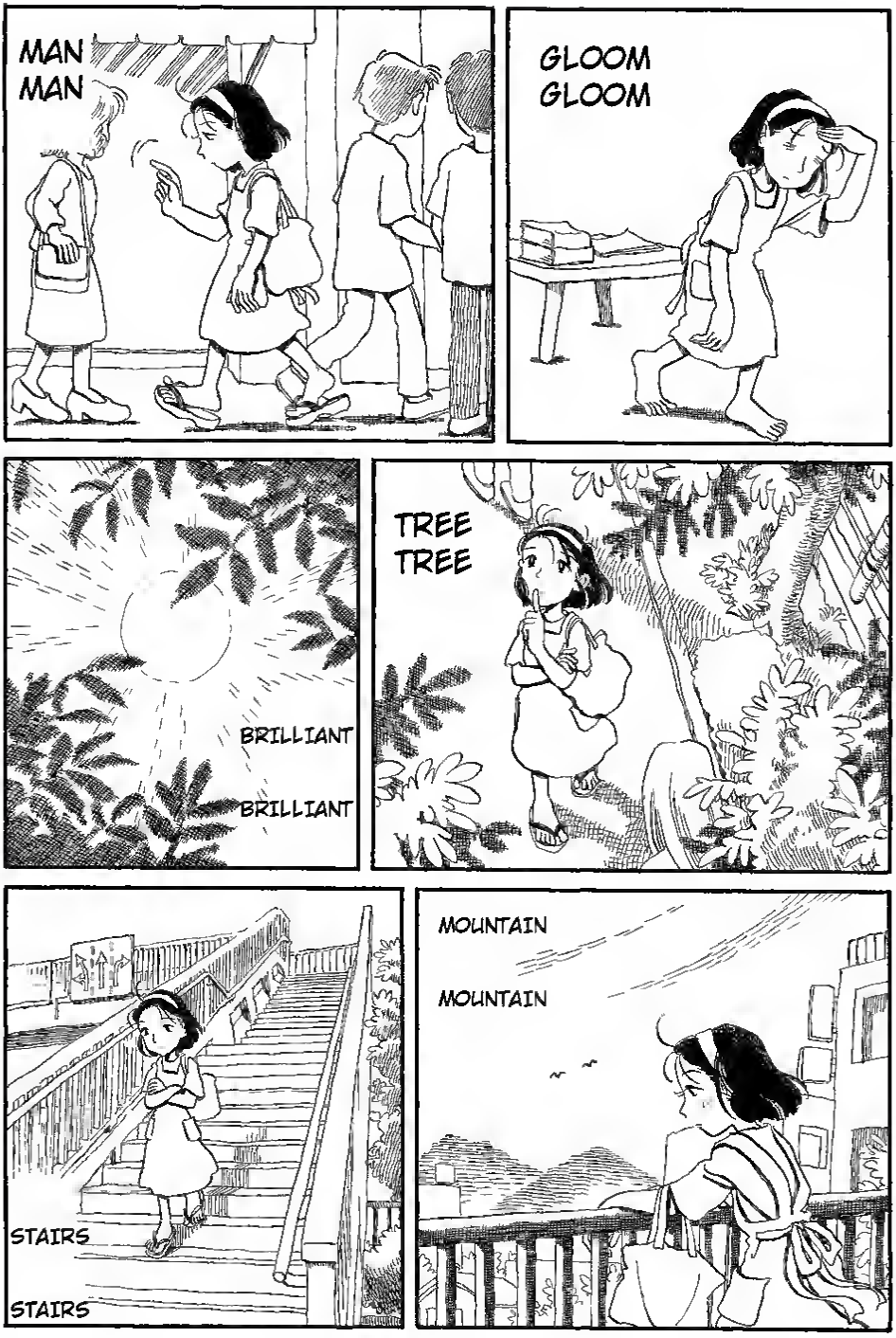

MICHI


SOS-LIKE ...

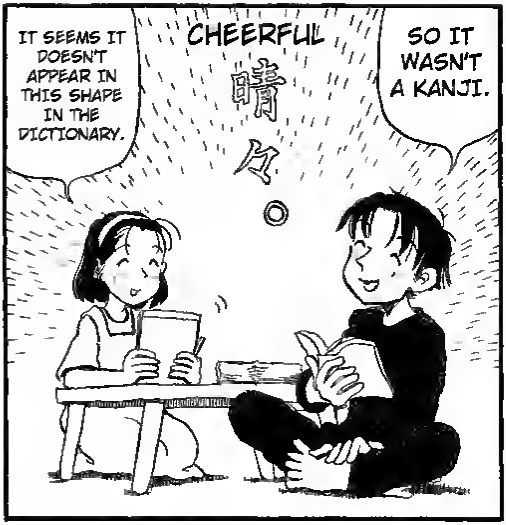

HUH?
I CAN'T SEE IT ...



Not in the Dictionary
SILENCE
SILENCE
...
...
WORRY
WORRY


MAN
MAN
GLOOM
GLOOM
BRILLIANT
BRILLIANT
TREE
TREE
STAIRS
STAIRS
MOUNTAIN
MOUNTAIN

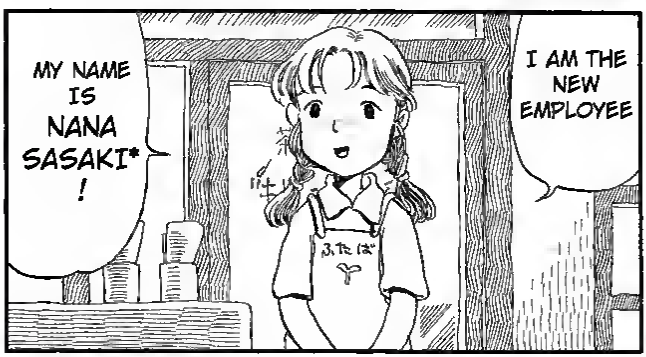
LEISURE
LEISURE
RED
RED
WELL ...
KANJI? WHICH ONE?
BUT I SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW TO WRITE ONE KANJI
MY MANAGER ASKED ME TO WRITE ABOUT MY KNOWLEDGE OF CUSTOMER SERVICE ..
SOME-HOW YOU DON'T LOOK GOOD.
AH!
SCATTER
SCATTER
... ...?
STRETCH
STRETCH
WHAT PARTS?
I DON'T KNOW ... SOMEHOW I CAN'T RECALL IT ...
HOW MANY STRO-KES?



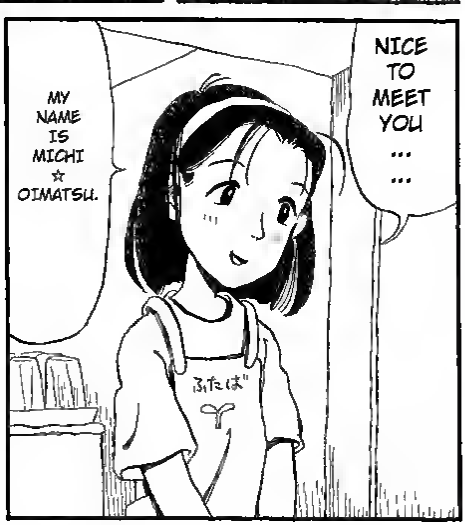
こあらわす符号。〈・々〉など。

ITERATION MARK:

CHARACTERS OR PUNCTUATION MARKS THAT REPRESENT A DUPLICATED CHARACTER OR WORD. USUALLY REPRESENTED BY THE 々 CHARACTER.



ERHM, HOW SHOULD I CALL YOU?
OH NO …
NOW SHE HAS ATTACHED A STAR TO MY NAME …
WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?
☆ OIMATSU, I FINISHED CLEANING UP!
ACUTELY **
…

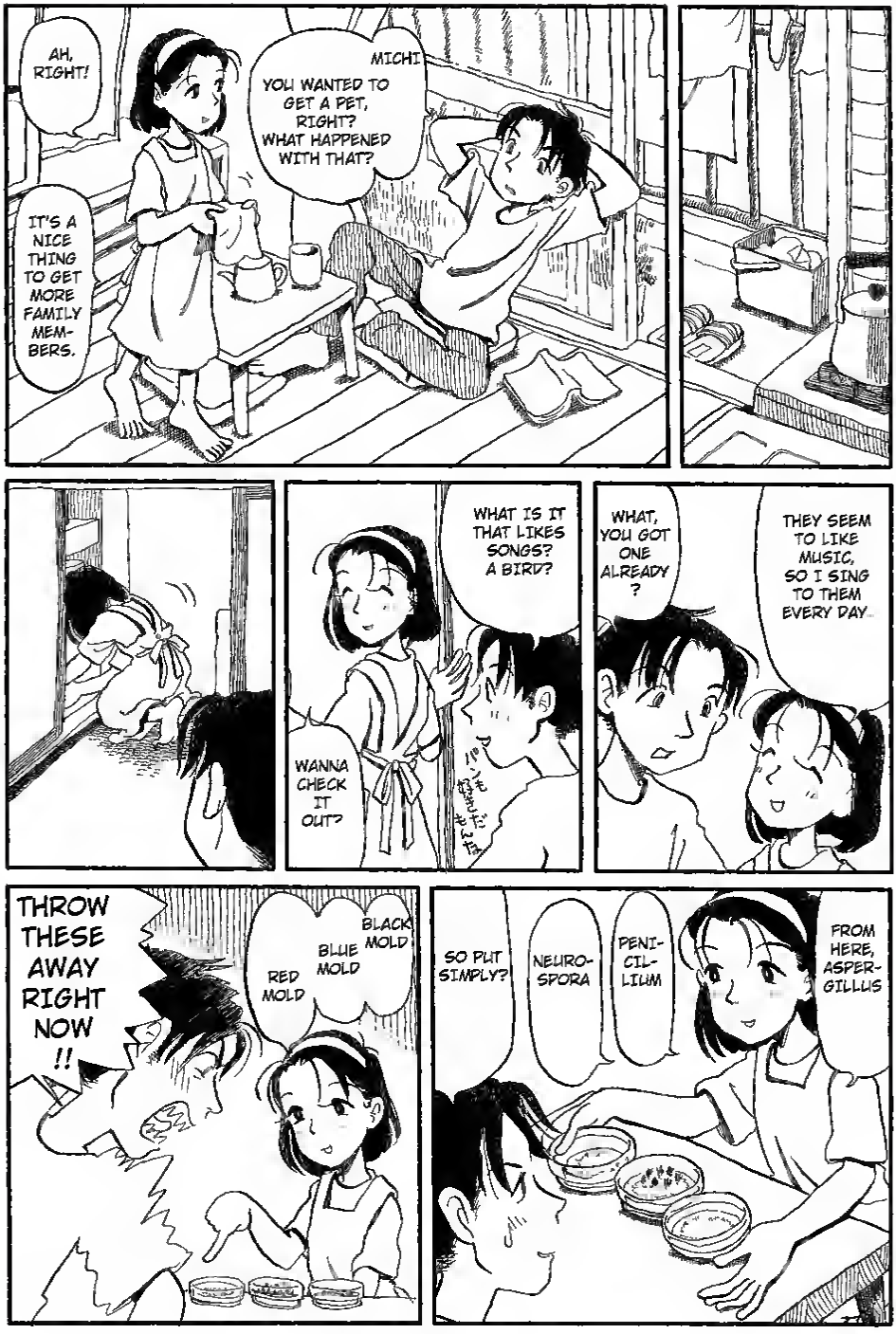


*THE CHARACTER FOR REPETITION IS USED IN BOTH OF HER NAMES

**ANOTHER JAPANESE WORD WITH THE CHARACTER FOR REPETITION

The Dependents' Song
RECENTLY I'VE BEEN THINKING
SOS-LIKE
WHEN YOU GET BACK FROM WORK ON SUCH A RAINY DAY
YOU GO OUT A LOT, SO ...
WHAT'S THIS, FROM THE MORNING?
YOU WOULD BE SURPRISED IF NOBODY WERE WAITING FOR YOU BACK HERE
...
BUT DOGS AREN'T ALLOWED HERE.
HUH?
SO IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE HAD A PET OR SOMETHING.
DON'T PRICK ME, OK?
HERE YOU GO!
YOU'VE GROWN BIG!

THOUGHT YOU WANTED KINDS ...
AH, I GOT SCARED FOR A MOMENT
SO WHAT SHOULD I GO FOR ...
ONCE YOU COME TO LOVE IT, ANY KIND OF LIVING THING IS CUTE!
IS IT OK?
YOU CAN GET ANY KIND OF PET OR PLANT!
AH, THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT !!
COME ON, YOU SHOULD AT LEAST GET IT SOME PROPER FOOD!
THEN LET ME KEEP THIS FOR MY PET.
... ...


AH, RIGHT!
MICHI
YOU WANTED TO GET A PET, RIGHT? WHAT HAPPENED WITH THAT?
IT'S A NICE THING TO GET MORE FAMILY MEMBERS.
WHAT IS IT THAT LIKES SONGS? A BIRD?
WANNA CHECK IT OUT?
WHAT, YOU GOT ONE ALREADY ?
THEY SEEM TO LIKE MUSIC, SO I SING TO THEM EVERY DAY.
THROW THESE AWAY RIGHT NOW !!
BLACK MOLD
BLUE MOLD
RED MOLD
SO PUT SIMPLY?
NEURO-SPORA
PENI-CIL-LIUM
FROM HERE, ASPER-GILLUS

...
...
I'M GOING TO WORK.
BUT THESE GROW REGARDLESS OF YOUR EFFORTS
YOU ARE SO COLD !!
BUT I REALLY GAVE MY BEST IN RAISING THEM!!
SHE IS REALLY GIVING HER BEST TO THEM LOVINGLY ...
ACTUALLY, SHE LOOKS VERY DEDICATED TO THIS
...
...
...
THEY AREN'T EVEN CUTE!!
YOU DID SOMETHING MEAN TO THEM!
THEY LOOK LIKE THEY ARE GONNA DIE!!
YOU KNEW!
I'M BACK
AH!

Passionate Junior
AH MORN-ING!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DID YOU JUST NOTICE IT NOW !?
HAH?
SOSUKE, AM I NOT GOOD AT PRECISE THINGS?
... ...
THOSE WERE SOME STRANGE EXER-CISES.
OK, I'M GOING NOW ...
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
HAVING PROBLEMS AT WORK?
SO THAT'S THE WAY IT IS AFTER ALL ...

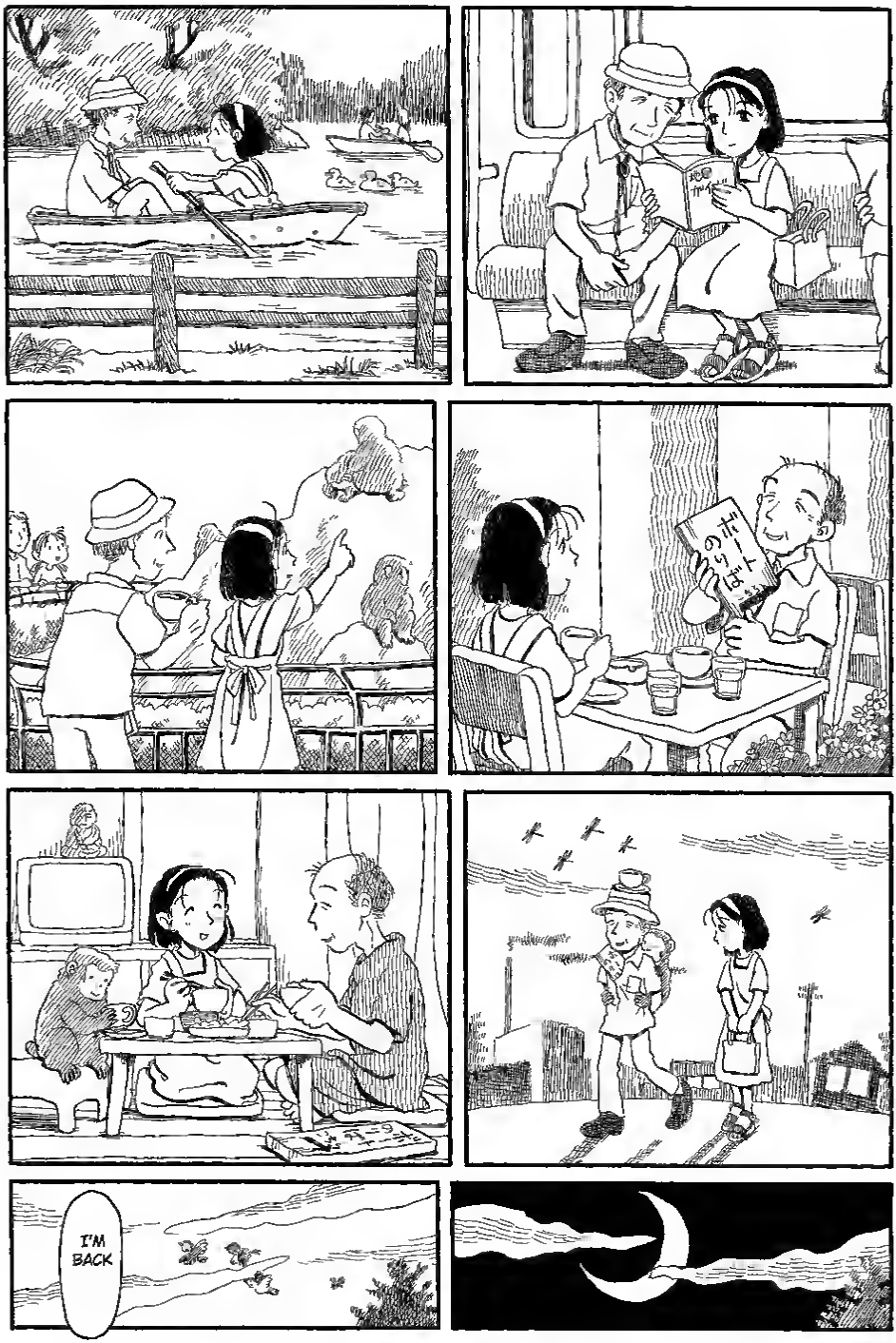
MICHI IS LATER THAN USUAL ...
SHE DIDN'T LOOK GOOD WHEN SHE LEFT, SO I WONDER IF SHE IS OKAY ...
... ...
... ...
YOU ARE AWFUL, OIMATSU!
WHY DO YOU DO IT THAT WAY!?
THAT'S WRONG!
うわぁ…
I HAVE PREPARED THE BATHTUB. SOMETIMES YOU SHOULD TAKE IT EASY AND GO TO SLEEP EARLY.
THANK YOU ...
AH, I SEE YOU'VE MADE SOME NOODLES.
WELL ...
IT'S TOUGH FOR YOU, TOO, SO ...

...
...
...
...
YOU GO FIRST, SOSUKE
I WANNA DO SOME EXERCISE.
I SEE
SHE MUST BE RELEASING HER STRESS THROUGH EXERCISE.
THESE EXERCISES ARE RATHER SULTRY ...

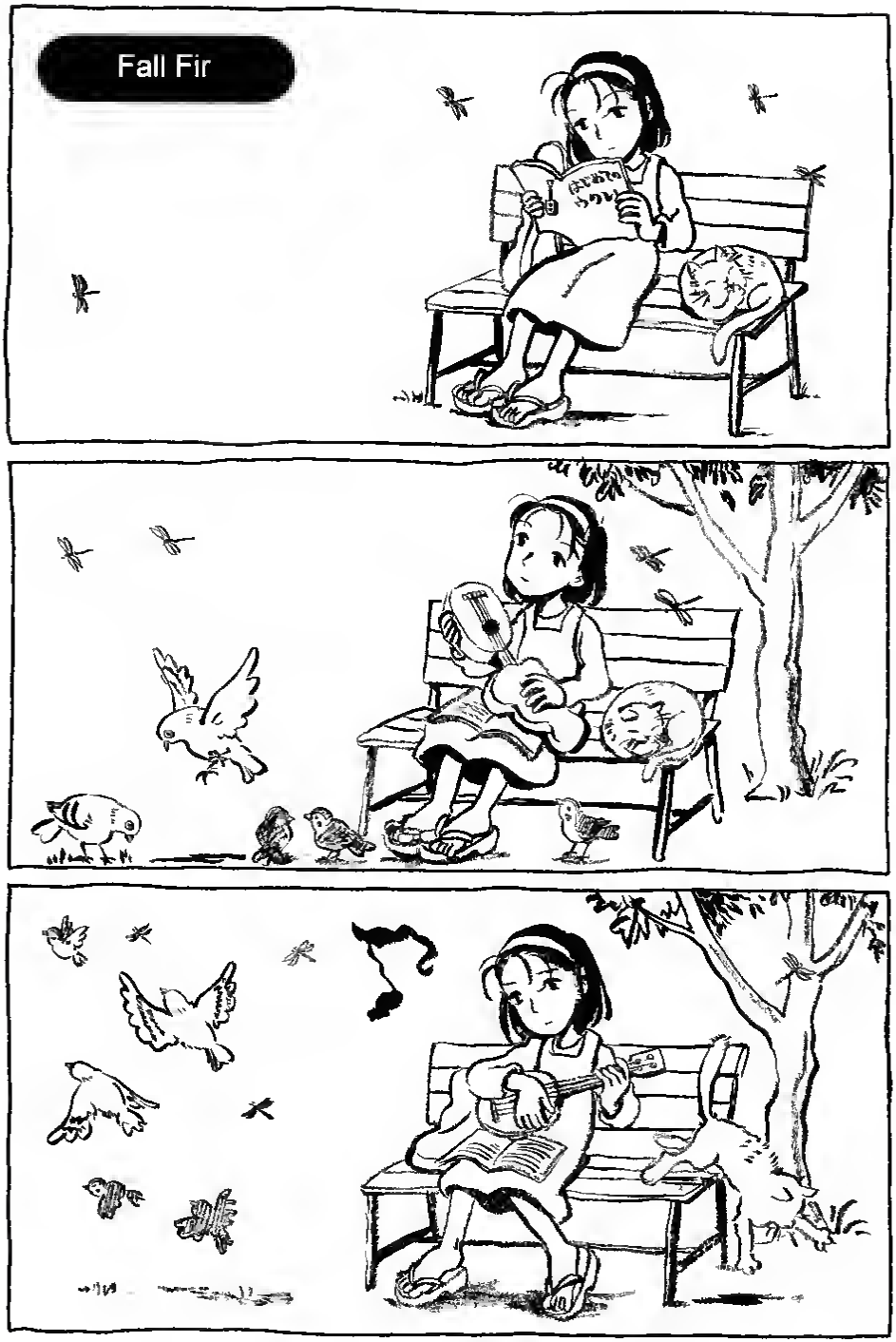
WE'LL BE GOING TO THE FESTIVAL WITH SASAKI. DO YOU WANNA COME, TOO?
SOS-UKE
YEP, I EVEN BROUGHT A SASH.
ARE YOU OK WITH THESE CLOTHES?
THEY ARE RATHER CLOSE ...
OIM-ATSU
SHE'S AN ACTRESS IN THE MAKING.
SASAKI IS FROM YOUR PART-TIME JOB, RIGHT?
SO YOU WERE GETTING READY FOR THE FESTIVAL DANCE !!
I'M GOING HOME !!
COME ON, MR. OIMATSU, I WILL TEACH YOU, TOO!
HUH !?
AFTER ALL YOU TAUGHT ME, AND I PRACTICED SO HARD FOR THIS DAY!

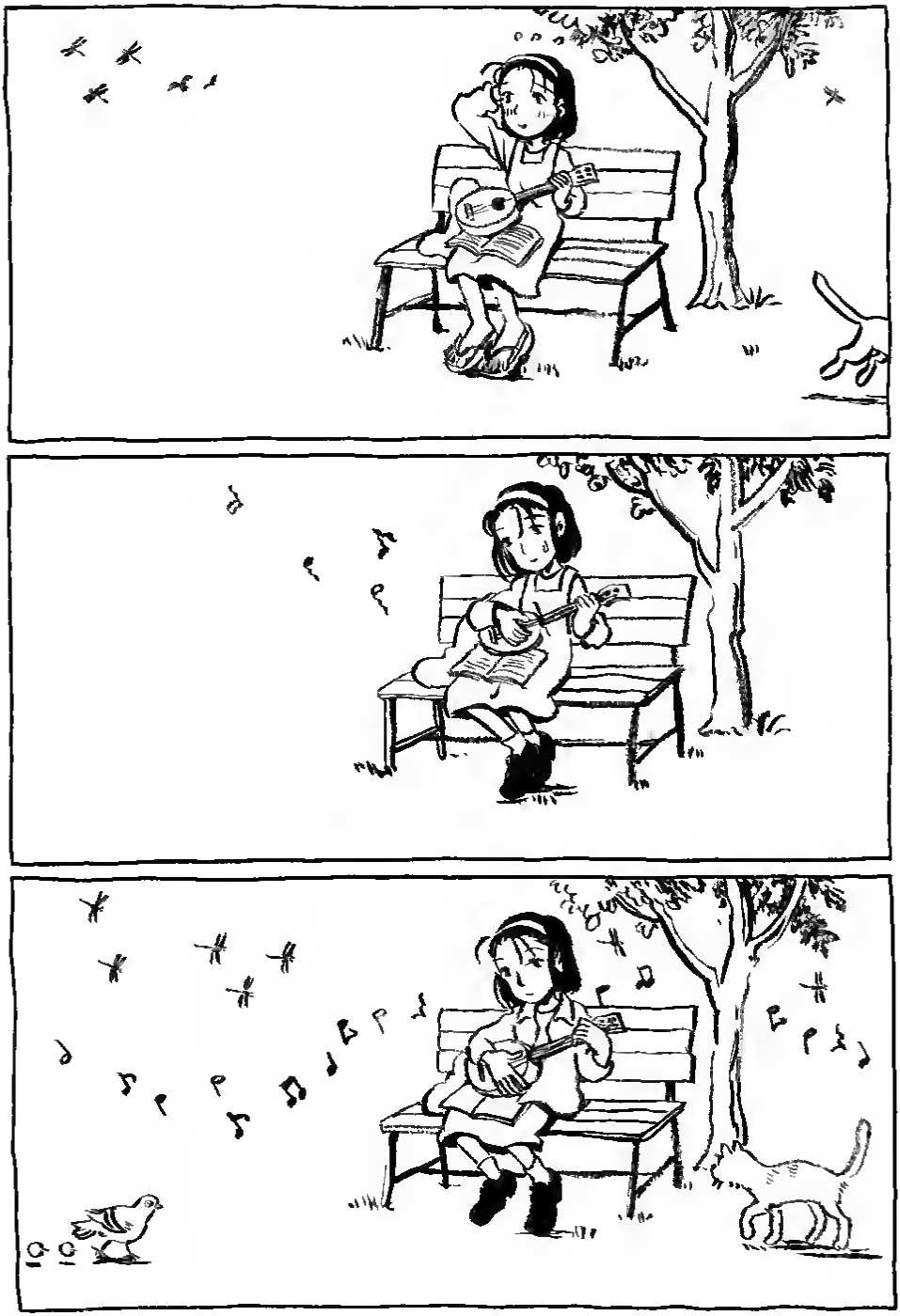
Thieving Father
SOSUKE, YOU ARE HERE.
YES ...
WHO WAS IT?
MAKING BABIES.
I'M BUSY NOW, SO SEE YOU SOME OTHER TIME.
FATHER !
WHAT ARE YOU BUSY WITH?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SOSUKE?
WA-
WHAT?
MI-CHI ...
GET NAKED NOW!

I'M HERE ON A BUSINESS TRIP, SO I THOUGHT I'D DROP BY, BUT YOU ARE STILL COLD TO ME
...
...
...
...
WHAT STUPID THINGS ARE YOU DOING ON A WEEKDAY MORNING !!
CRAP I FORGOT TO LOCK THE WINDOW !!
I'M OUT OF HERE!
THIS IS FOR YOU.
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
I'LL PUT THIS IN A BAG AND HIT YOU WITH IT!
MICHI, IS TODAY YOUR DAY OFF?
YEP !
SHALL WE GO SOME-WHERE?
...
...
...
...


I'M BACK

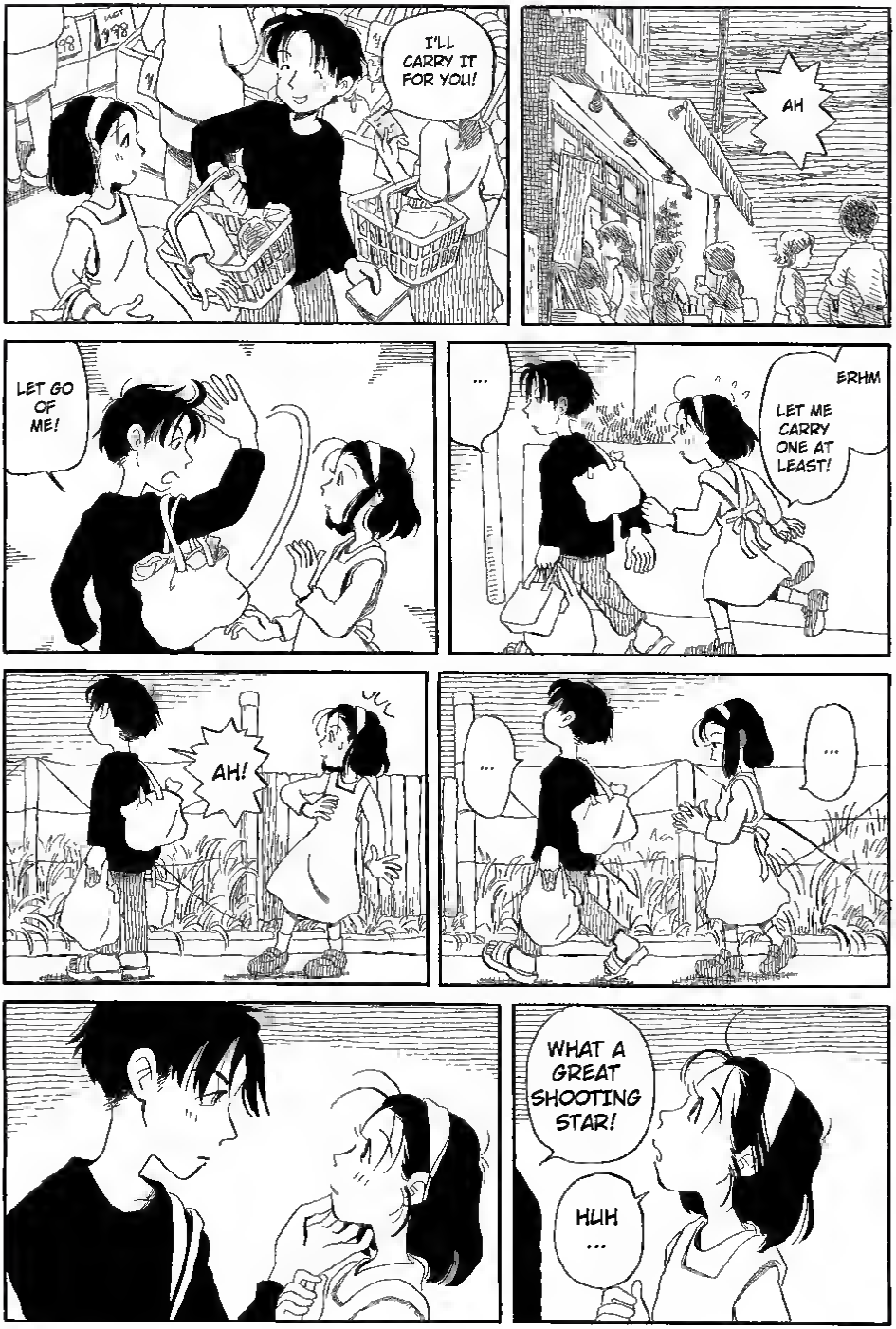
OK, I'LL BE GOING NOW
!?
!?
...
!?
NO, IN FACT ...
MICHI ... DID MY FATHER DO ANYTHING IMPOLITE TO YOU?
AH AH
DON'T MENTION IT ...
THANK YOU, SOSUKE AND MICHI.
RIGHT, YOU DID THE SAME THING ON NEW YEAR'S, TOO
SHE MUST HAVE NOTICED I STOLE HER PILLOW WHILE SHE WAS SLEEPING
MICHI WAS REALLY NOT VERY FRIENDLY THIS MORNING ...
AH, I SEE ...
I GUESS I WAS TOO NERVOUS.
I GOT A CRICK IN MY NECK FROM SLEEPING IN THE WRONG POSITION, SO I COULDN'T TAKE CARE OF HIM MUCH.

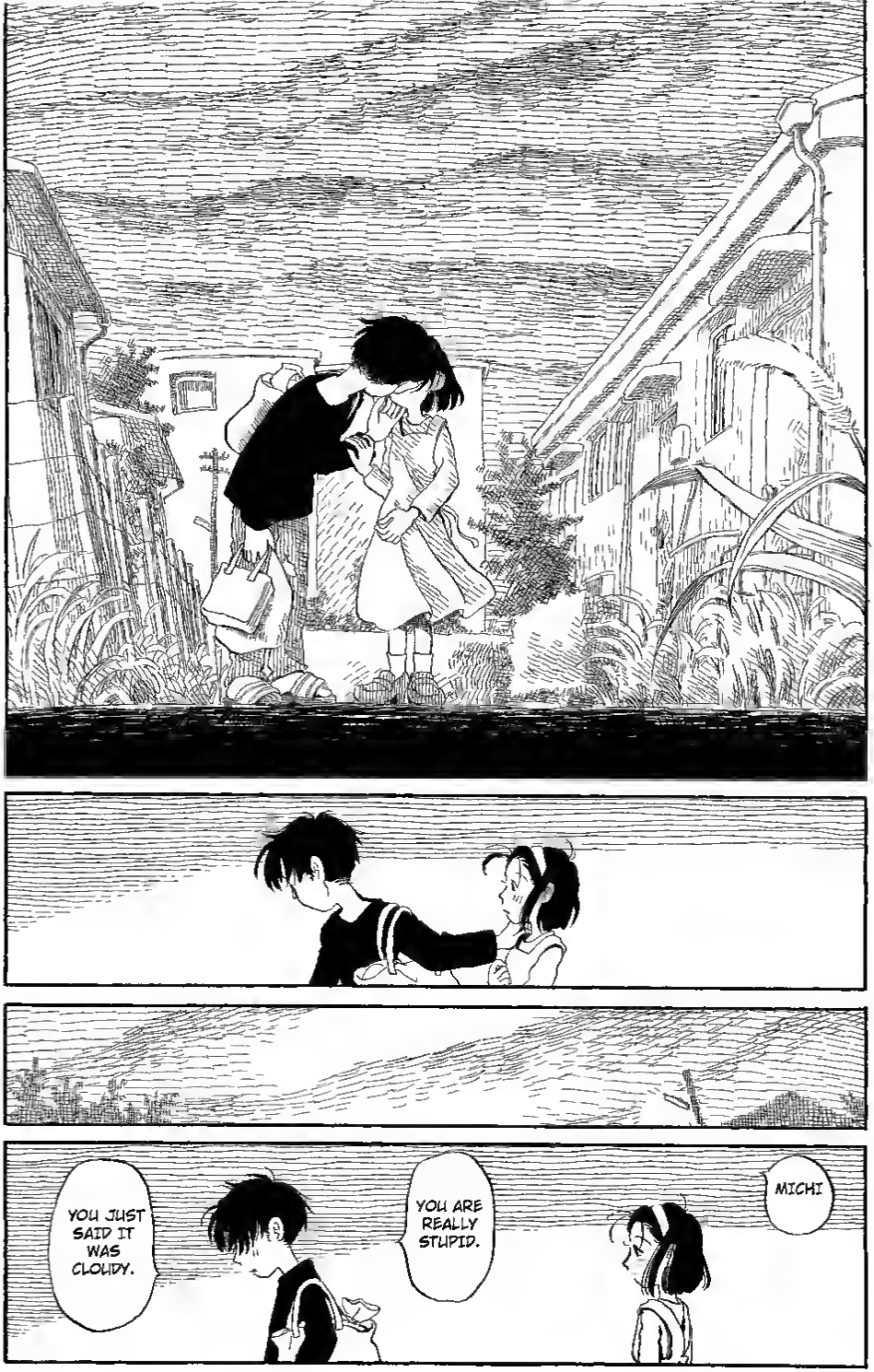

Fall Fir



ZOO
200
BECOME BETTER SINGER
うたの上達
BOOK STORE
REWARD

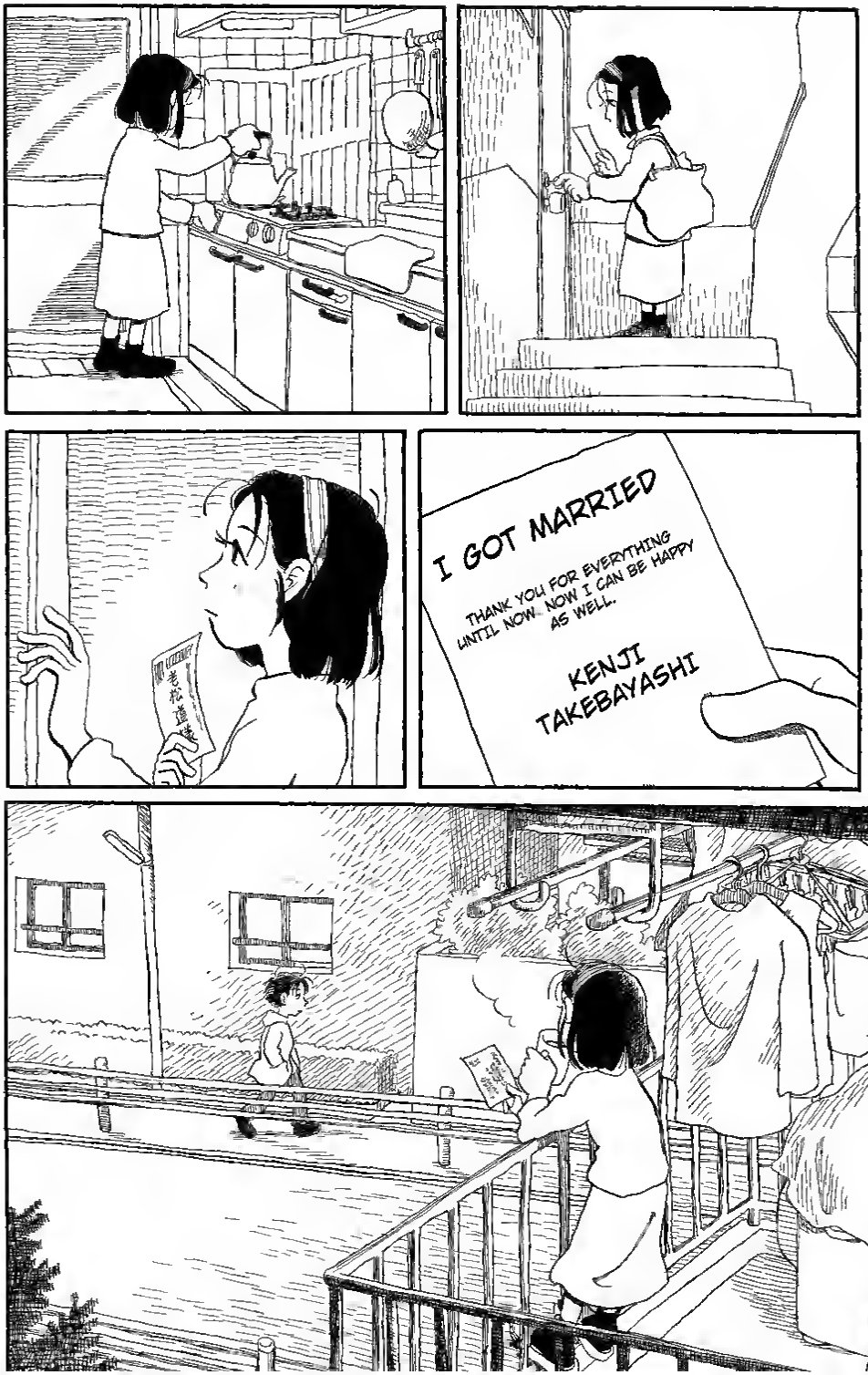
Fall Skies
AH!
...
HAVE YOU COME TO PICK ME UP?
WEL-COME BACK
MICHI !
...
IT HAS BECOME CLOUDY ...
NOT REALLY

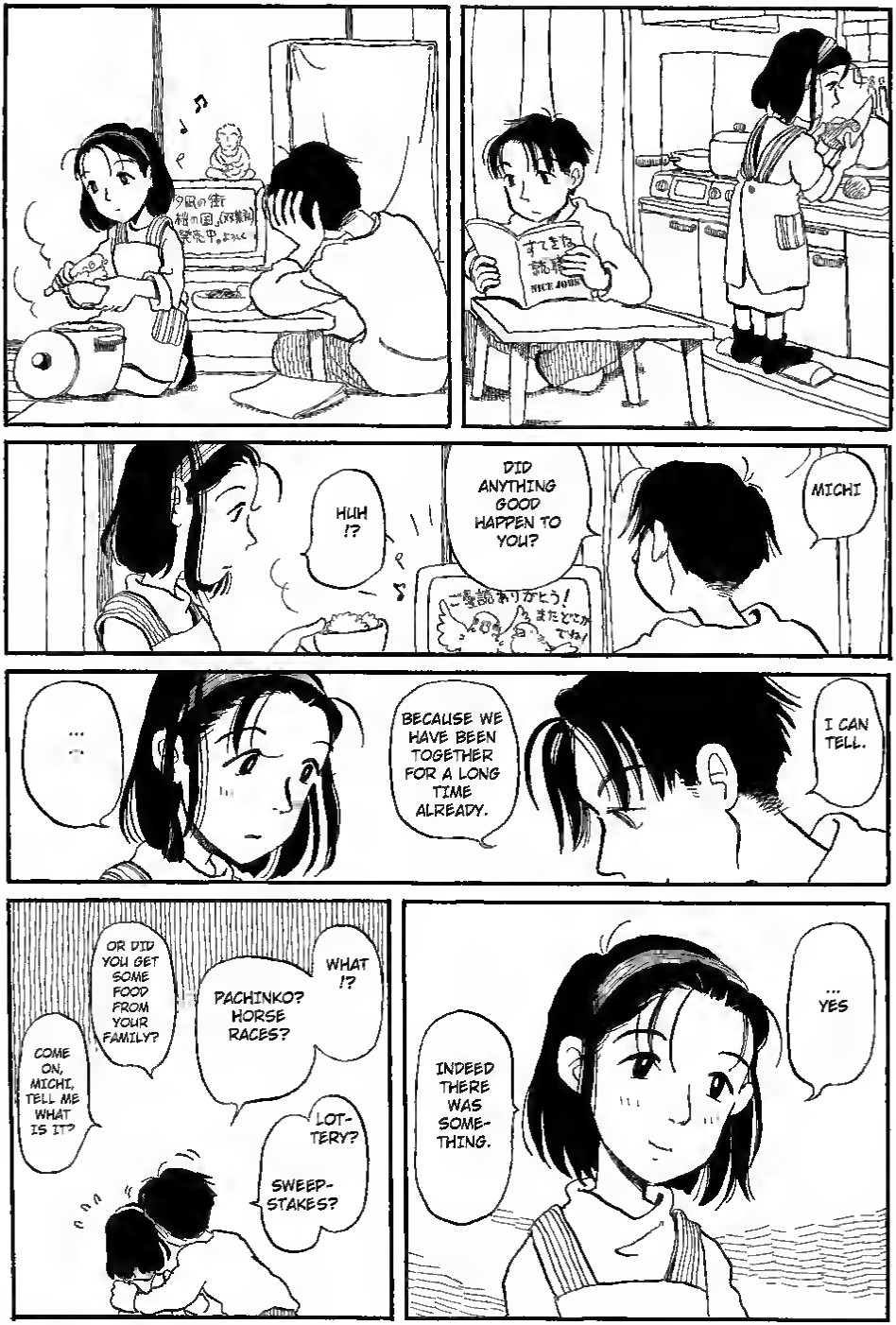

I'LL CARRY IT FOR YOU!
AH
LET GO OF ME!
...
ERHM
LET ME CARRY ONE AT LEAST!
AH!
...
...
WHAT A GREAT SHOOTING STAR!
HUH ...

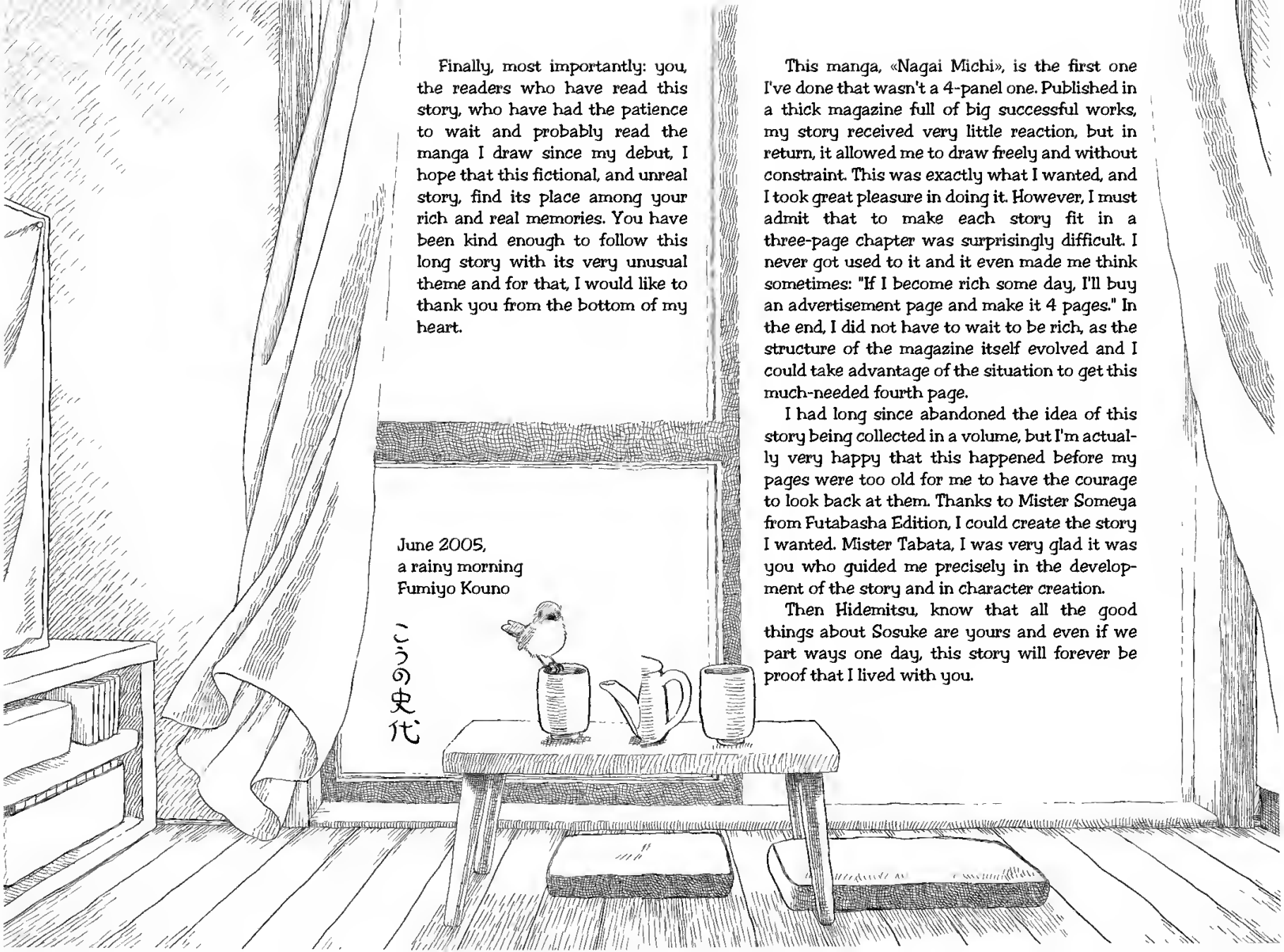

MICHI
YOU ARE REALLY STUPID.
YOU JUST SAID IT WAS CLOUDY.

NOW ... EVEN IF YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO BREAK UP, I MIGHT NOT AGREE TO THAT.
REA-LLY STU-PID
MARRY-ING SOMEONE LIKE ME.
...
...
YOU WILL SOON FIND IT.
...
...
RIGHT!! THAT'S WHAT'S WRONG!!
YOU WILL FIND THE RIGHT JOB FOR YOU.
I BROKE 3 OF THE COMPANY'S COMPUTERS ON THE FIRST DAY!

Eventually It Came


I GOT MARRIED
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING UNTIL NOW. NOW I CAN BE HAPPY AS WELL.
KENJI TAKEBAYASHI


すてきな
読書
NICE JOURNEY
MICHI
DID ANYTHING GOOD HAPPEN TO YOU?
HUH !?
ご愛読ありがとう!
また どこかで
会おうね!
...
...
BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR A LONG TIME ALREADY.
I CAN TELL.
...YES
INDEED THERE WAS SOME-THING.
WHAT !?
PACHINKO? HORSE RACES?
LOT-TERY?
SWEEP-STAKES?
OR DID YOU GET SOME FOOD FROM YOUR FAMILY?
COME ON, MICHI, TELL ME WHAT IS IT?



Finally, most importantly: you, the readers who have read this story, who have had the patience to wait and probably read the manga I draw since my debut, I hope that this fictional, and unreal story, find its place among your rich and real memories. You have been kind enough to follow this long story with its very unusual theme and for that, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

June 2005,
a rainy morning
Fumiyo Kouno

こうの史代

This manga, «Nagai Michi», is the first one I've done that wasn't a 4-panel one. Published in a thick magazine full of big successful works, my story received very little reaction, but in return, it allowed me to draw freely and without constraint. This was exactly what I wanted, and I took great pleasure in doing it. However, I must admit that to make each story fit in a three-page chapter was surprisingly difficult. I never got used to it and it even made me think sometimes: "If I become rich some day, I'll buy an advertisement page and make it 4 pages." In the end, I did not have to wait to be rich, as the structure of the magazine itself evolved and I could take advantage of the situation to get this much-needed fourth page.

I had long since abandoned the idea of this story being collected in a volume, but I'm actually very happy that this happened before my pages were too old for me to have the courage to look back at them. Thanks to Mister Someya from Futabasha Edition, I could create the story I wanted. Mister Tabata, I was very glad it was you who guided me precisely in the development of the story and in character creation.

Then Hidemitsu, know that all the good things about Sosuke are yours and even if we part ways one day, this story will forever be proof that I lived with you.

「夕凪の街 桜の国」

こうの史代

定価840円（税込）

第9回手塚治虫文化賞新生賞&
第8回文化庁メディア芸術祭大賞ダブル受賞!

読後、
まだ名前のついていない感情が、
あなたの心の深い所を
突き刺します。

初出：Jour「すてきな主婦たち」01年3月号～04年12月号
「雀荘の国」…「月刊まんがタウン」05年4月号
「道草」…自費出版 02年3月

ACTION COMICS

長い道

2005年8月28日　初版第1刷発行
2007年3月20日　第6刷発行

著者
こうの史代
ふみよ

発行者
佐藤俊行

発行所
株式会社 双葉社
〒162-8540　東京都新宿区東五軒町3-28
電話 03-5261-4818(営業) 03-5261-4844(編集)
振替00180-6-117299

装幀
関善之
VOLARE inc

印刷所
三晃印刷株式会社

製本所
株式会社ダイワビーツー

落丁・乱丁の場合は本社にてお取替えいたします。
定価はカバーに表示してあります。
本書の無断複写・転載・放送・上映等は
著作権法での例外を除き、禁じられています。

ISBN4-575-93962-5 C9979
©Fumiyo Kouno 2001 Printed in Japan

双葉社ホームページ
http://www.futabasha.co.jp
双葉社の書籍・コミックが購入できます。